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Trade and Industry

27 January 1978

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

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Trade and Industry this week

OVERSEAS

UK share of world trade down – Barnett

For a country so dependent on overseas trade and despite the success of Export Year, the UK has been losing out on its share of overseas trade, said Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, at the Export Year conference in Birmingham on Tuesday (see below).

As an example Mr Barnett said that in 1963 the UK's share of the exports from the industrialised countries (the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) to the member countries of the European Economic Community was nearly 9 per cent, 10 years later, in 1973, it was 6¼ per cent. Over the same period the UK share of the United States market fell from 11 per cent to under 7 per cent. The Japanese share meanwhile rose from 15 per cent to 24 per cent. The UK held its own on its overseas accounts only because, throughout this time, the invisible side of the balance did so well. In 1963 the net contribution to the current balance of payments from invisibles was £200 million, in 1973 it was £1,400 million. 'Why have we slipped? What must we do again to push up our share of world trade?,' he asked.

Mr Barnett said one suggestion as a cure for the UK's troubles would be a sizeable reduction in taxation. 'I wish it were so simple. I certainly hope we will be able to make sizeable reductions in taxation. But however one looks at the position in the 1950s when the burden of taxation was much lighter the fall in the share of world trade went on at much the same rate. It was 25 per cent in 1950, 16½ per cent in 1960.'

It had been suggested that the pace at which prices had risen in the UK had made UK goods uncompetitive on world markets. This would certainly be true for some products in some countries at some times. But overall it would not do as a total explanation of why the UK's share of world trade had gone down. Mr Barnett said that from 1963 to 1973 the value of sterling compared with that of other currencies had fallen perhaps even faster than domestic prices had risen.

He did not think that there was some simple cure-all solution which would ensure that Britain used wisely the opportunity that it now had. The government recognised that the country could only make the best use of its opportunity if, first and foremost, manufacturing industry provided more of the goods that people in this country and people overseas wanted, at the time they wanted it, and at the price they were willing to pay. This sort of thinking had been behind Export Year.

'We have two distinct assets which we must utilise to the utmost in the years ahead. One is North Sea oil – if we do not allow the euphoria of its temporary, but important, benefits to over-rule our better judgement – and the other is the skill, the knowledge and the effort of our labour force and of our management,' he said.

Export Year follow-up launched

Under the banner of 'Export United' a number of organisations, including the TUC, CBI and British Overseas Trade Board, this week launched a new campaign to encourage companies to involve all their staff in their export effort.

Announced by the Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, at the Export Year conference in Birmingham on Tuesday, the new campaign is intended to take over from 'Export Year', which was supported by over 2500 companies. It has been launched, the Duke explained, because of the widespread demand from managers and trade unionists that the impetus created by 'Export Year' should be maintained.

Both John Greenborough, new president of the CBI, and Jack Jones, representing the TUC, welcomed the new campaign while speaking at the conference, which was attended by over 500 management and shop-floor representatives from throughout the country.

Export Year awards presented

During the conference, Mrs Pamela Harris, a telex operator at Lee, Howl and Co, Tipton, and John Savage, an electronics engineer from Safe Production Systems, Brierley Hill, were presented with Export Year awards by the Duke of Kent.

Also presented with trophies by the Duke of Kent were Key Terrain, winners of the display category in the Export Year competition, and Lucas Industries, for its series of Export Year newspapers *Target*.

Dell has trade talks in Spain

Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell visited Spain this week (24 to 26 January) to discuss economic and trade policy issues, especially those within the EEC context, with members of the Spanish government.

The visit was aimed at developing closer relations with the Spanish and exploring the scope for growth in two-way trade.

UK exports to Spain for the period January to November 1977 were worth £476.9 million and UK imports, £391.7 million.

EUROPE

Devaluation of green pound agreed

EEC agriculture ministers meeting on Tuesday (24 January) agreed in principle that Britain's 'green pound' – the representative exchange rate for agricultural transactions – should be devalued by 7½ per cent. However the Belgian, German and Dutch ministers decided to refer the devaluation back to their cabinets before voting the proposal through at council level.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food predicts that the effects of the devaluation will be a rise of 1½ per cent in food prices and an increase in the all-items retail price index of ⅝p.

John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, explained that he had proposed to the commission that the devaluation should apply immediately only to the livestock sector and that all other sectors should wait until the start of their normal marketing year. In the case of cereals this would mean a postponement until 1 August next.

Bids invited for additional EEC haulage permits

Arrangements for the allocation of an additional 54 EEC permits, that have become available to UK hauliers as a result of the EEC transport ministers meeting on 20 December 1977, were announced on Monday (23 January) by the Department of Transport.

After consultation with the Road Haulage Association and Freight Transport Association it has been decided to offer the extra permits to operators who are prepared to surrender French and/or West German general quota permits from their allocations. The EEC permits will go to those operators offering the largest numbers of bilateral permits in exchange.

No bids below 40 general quota permits will be accepted, and the department reserves the right to limit the number of additional EEC permits available to any individual operator under these arrangements.

Bids should be submitted in writing to: EEC Permits, International Road Freight

Office, 36/42 Low Friar Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5XR, and should arrive by 17 February at the latest. Envelopes should be marked 'EEC' in the top left-hand corner.

The bids will be opened on 20 February. Successful applicants will be notified as soon as possible thereafter and the permits will be issued on receipt of the normal fee of £95. In the event of a tie the decision of the Department of Transport will be final.

Anti-dumping duties imposed on iron and steel

Provisional anti-dumping duties on imports into the EEC of various iron and steel products have been imposed by the EEC commission this week.

The rates of duty are variable and are designed to bridge the difference between the delivered price of each imported consignment and the commission's basic price (see *Trade and Industry*, 13 January 1978, page 64).

The products now subject to duties are: ex 73.13B IV c), sheets and plates of iron or steel other than electrical sheets and plates, hot-rolled or cold-rolled, zinc-coated (other than electrolytically zinc-coated) originating in Poland or Spain; 73.13B II b) c), sheets and plates of iron or steel, other than electrical sheets and plates, not further worked than cold-rolled, of a thickness of less than 3 mm (ECSC) originating in Czechoslovakia; 73.10A I, wire rod (ECSC) of iron or steel, not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded, originating in Czechoslovakia; 73.13B I a), sheets and plates of iron or steel, other than electrical sheets and plates, not further worked than hot-rolled, of a thickness of 2 mm or more (ECSC) originating in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia or Japan; ex 73.01 B, hematite pig iron and cast iron (ECSC) in pigs, blocks, lumps and similar forms, containing less than 0.1 per cent by weight of manganese, originating in Canada; 73.08 A and B, iron or steel coils for re-rolling originating in Czechoslovakia or the Republic of Korea.

The duties have been imposed in accordance with ECSC recommendations published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* on 21 and 24 January 1978.

The duty on iron and steel coils for re-rolling originating in Czechoslovakia and South Korea came into force at midnight on 22 January. The other duties were effective from 24 January.

Duty-free facilities on UK-Ireland routes

From 1 March, both the UK and the Republic of Ireland will allow duty-free stores to ships (both passenger and cargo) of not less than 40 tons sailing between them on routes approved by the two customs administrations and to aircraft departing from customs airports on flights between the two countries. Passengers departing on such routes may have access to duty-free shops where they already exist and where suitable control arrangements are made. This was announced by Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, in answer to a parliamentary question on Monday (23 January).

The decision means that passengers and crews on these routes will have access to the same duty-free facilities as are allowed for vessels and aircraft departing for other EEC countries. These arrangements are, of course, subject to review in the context of possible future EEC requirements for restrictions on duty-free stores in this field.

HOME

Action proposed against dangerous goods

Action to safeguard consumers against dangerous goods would be enabled by a consumer safety bill which is due to receive its second reading in parliament today (27 January). Introduced as a private member's bill by Neville Trotter, Tynemouth, it is intended to remedy deficiencies in the Consumer Protection Act 1961, by providing a framework for more flexible and positive action to be taken to safeguard consumers against dangerous and unsafe goods.

It is proposed that the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection be given more extensive regulation-making powers, to enable him to prohibit the supply of dangerous goods and to require the publication of notices warning the public of any dangerous goods put on general sale.

Local weights and measures authorities would be under a duty to enforce safety regulations made under the bill. Under present legislation they are merely empowered to do so at their discretion.

The 'Consumer Safety Bill' (Bill 19), is available from HMSO, price 50p.

NCCN networks users survey

The National Committee on Computer Networks is conducting a survey of some 3000 present and likely future users of computer networks, to obtain their views on future requirements. A detailed questionnaire will be sent out at the end of this month.

Anyone else who wishes to submit evidence to the committee can obtain a questionnaire from, or send views in writing to, the NCCN Secretariat, Rutherford Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon OX11 0QX, tel. Abingdon (0235) 21900 ext. 529. Completed questionnaires or other submissions should reach the secretariat by 28 February 1978.

New Oxford - Birmingham road

Plans for an entirely new dual carriageway road – but not necessarily a motorway – linking the southern end of the M40 near Oxford with the northern section north of Warwick were announced earlier this week (23 January) by the Department of Transport.

Outlining the proposals William Rodgers, secretary of state, emphasised that the new road is already needed for environmental reasons, and does not rely for its justification on traffic growth. He conceded, however, that in view of uncertainties in the wake of the recent Leitch report, the original proposal for a straightforward extension of the M40 northwards to motorway standards had now been shelved, and that the actual carriageway capacity would be the subject of future study.

A bypass for Banbury is one of the most pressing needs, and it is hoped that this section will be opened in the mid-1980s, with completion of the entire route later in the decade providing a new route both for traffic on the Southampton-Birmingham corridor, and as an alternative between south and west London and Birmingham to the already heavily used M1.

The Department of Transport has also announced plans to improve the A420 and A43 roads between Swindon and the M1 near Northampton by providing by-passes to seven of the towns on the route, including interchange with the new Oxford-Warwick road near Weston on the Green, and for studies of possible options for a new route from the M40 south of Oxford to the M1 near Luton and on to the A1(M) near Stevenage.

UGGC assurance on bottle prices

UG Glass Containers Ltd (UGGC) has given the Price Commission an assurance that it will not seek a further increase in the price of glass jars and bottles before 16 September 1978 without a substantial and unexpected increase in costs.

This is revealed in the Price Commission's report on its investigation into UGGC's proposal to increase the price of glass containers, published on Tuesday (24 January).

The company has further undertaken to review: differences in profitability between business with large and with small purchasers, larger purchases being generally less profitable; possible improvements in use of capacity through firmer contracts with customers; its uniform prices for deliveries.

In the light of these assurances, and of the company's agreement to take into account the varying profit levels arising from different classes of customers when applying the balance, the commission makes no formal recommendation in its report.

Price Commission Investigation Report 'UG Glass Containers Ltd – Prices of Glass Containers' (HC 170) is available from HMSO price 70p.

Home news

More measures proposed to help small firms

More government measures to help small firms are on the way, Harold Lever promised businessmen at the conference on 'Small firms in inner cities' in Birmingham on 18 January. In particular, Mr Lever said that he was looking at some of the long-standing grievances of small business people and raising on their behalf some of the questions they had been asking.

Giving some examples he questioned whether the burden of VAT could not be lightened a little by increasing the threshold, to £10,000, or by simplifying the VAT administration and helping with VAT bad debt relief.

It should also be possible to ensure that the purposes of capital transfer tax were fulfilled, without injuring the small business.

There was the question, he said, of giving relief on capital gains tax for losses on loans to small companies. It could also be useful to enlarge the corporation tax concessions for small companies, by increasing the profit limits and relaxing the apportionment provisions, for example.

Most important, he said, was the cumulative effect of what was being done to increase the self-confidence of the small business sector. The small businessman had to know that the government believed he had a valuable and creative role in the modern world. The government intended to create the right sort of environment in which this role could be fulfilled.

A start had already been made with measures contained in Denis Healey's statement in the autumn which were worth £120 million a year. And for the inner cities, an increase in the urban programme of £100 million a year had been announced. Additionally, a bill was now proposed to give selected local authorities more power to assist industry. Flexibility in the granting of industrial development certificates had been increased.

Central government could help in the field of taxation, in encouraging the provision of finance and in seeking to keep to the minimum the administrative burden which was imposed on business. Mr Lever said that the Prime Minister had asked him to co-ordinate with Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, the work that government departments had been doing for some time in order to emphasise the growing importance and urgency of assisting small firms.

Electricity consumers council holds inaugural meeting

A forceful, visible and clearly audible champion of electricity consumers was the role Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, saw for the newly established National Electricity Consumers' Council, when he spoke at the inaugral meeting on 18 January.

Mr Maclennan explained that the existing area councils would of course continue to deal with consumers' representations against area boards and would also continue to play their critical and highly valuable role in the development of boards' policies. One of the main functions of the new council must be the co-ordination of the work of the area councils and with all the advantages of a permanent staff it would be able to do so far more effectively than the previous informal arrangements allowed.

A further benefit of the establishment of the council would be that as well as co-ordinating the efforts of area consultative councils it would also be able to co-ordinate the council's work with the work of other national consumer bodies.

Co-ordination and liaison were however only one side of the council's task. Another important element in the formulation of policy was research. It was his intention that the council should devote a considerable part of its resources to research. Building on the base of the considerable fund of experience and information available at area council level and making full use of contacts which he hoped to see established with organisations such as the NCC and the other fuel NICCs a great deal of work could be achieved.

Finally he said that he would become concerned if he did not hear from the council from time to time not only on matters relating to the industry but also on questions relating to its own organisation and structure. It was intended to give the council statutory status and he would certainly expect to have comments on any statutory proposals that might be put forward.

Clearing bankers agreement registered as restrictive

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has now concluded his consideration of the Price Commission's report [1] following its investigation into

[1] Barclays Bank Ltd charges for money transmission services to the Post Office, the British Gas Corporation and the Electricity Council (HC 134). HMSO 45p.

Michael Barnes, chairman of the electricity council (centre), with deputy chairman Leonard Pike on his right and the members of the newly formed council whose appointment was announced on 18 January: Miss A. Ayerst, Mr J. Chesshire, Mr P. Houghton, Mr T. Maley, Mr S. Rasul, Lady Ricketts, Miss N. Riddington, Mr D. Seymour, and Cllr C. V. Wilkinson. Mr Hattersley has decided that in addition the chairmen of all 12 regional electricity consultative councils in England and Wales should become ex officio members of the electricity consumers' council: Dame Elizabeth Ackroyd, Mr J. Brocklebank, Mr. C. R. W. Grantham, Mr D. T. King, Mr M. J. Moore, Mr C. T. Muddiman, Mr F. A. W. Pannell, Mr J. Peck, Mrs A. M. Rees, Mr T. Taylor, and Mr D. Webster.

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Barclays Bank Ltd's charges to certain nationalised industries.

The report, published on 9 January recorded that the Price Commission had informed the Director General of Fair Trading, in accordance with section 19 of the Price Commission Act 1977, that the agreement between the members of the committee of London clearing bankers (CLCB) to negotiate jointly with the industries appeared to be registrable under part I of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1976.

The agreement has now been placed on the public register of restrictive trading agreements. Details had already been furnished by the CLCB to the director-general within the time-limits specified in the legislation.

BPB Industries undertakes to change its trading policy

BPB Industries Ltd is to make significant changes in its pricing and trading policies. Deliveries of plasterboard from BPB, the sole UK manufacturer, will in future be charged for at prices which more accurately reflect the cost of delivery and customers who wish to collect plasterboard at ex-works prices from the company's manufacturing plants will be able to do so. The new pricing system will start from 1 March 1978 and between now and that date BPB will be advising its customers of the detailed changes.

John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, explained to parliament on 18 January that these undertakings had resulted from negotiations carried out by the Director General of Fair Trading with BPB following recommendations made by the Monopolies Commission in its 1974 report on the supply of plasterboard.

Allied Breweries gets interim price rise

An interim increase in the prices of Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd, allowing the implementation of increases of 2p a pint on most of the company's beer sold in public houses and other increases for managed house sales, was approved by the Price Commission on 19 January.

The commission announced on 12 January that price increases proposed by Allied Breweries for manufactured and wholesale beer and for food, drink and accommodation in managed houses would be subject to investigations. The immediate effect of the commission's decision to investigate was to stop the implementation of the proposed increases. However the commission may allow interim increases and is obliged to do so to the extent provided by the safeguard regulations.

Subsequent representations by Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd on the basis of these regulations were considered and the commission found itself obliged to use its powers to approve interim increases. It accepted the company's legal right to an overall weighted average increase of 7.42 per cent in respect of manufactured and wholesale beer, as originally proposed by the company. It also accepted the company's legal right to an overall weighted average increase of 6.85 per cent for sales and accommodation in managed houses. This takes account of an undertaking by the company to defer a number of increases in bar prices which it had proposed in its original notification to the commission.

Government determined on greater competition in brewing industry

Routine increases in beer prices would become more and more difficult to justify as the fall in the rate of inflation continues. The government was determined that present talks with the brewers would lead to greater competition in the industry, Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, told members of the National Union of Licensed Victuallers. Speaking in London on 18 January, he said that he did not pretend that the brewers endorsed all the government's criticism, but they certainly seemed willing to meet it on a number of important points.

Mr Hattersley pointed out that he had not previously said anything about the controversy surrounding beer and the brewing industry. But he did observe a number of facts about its structure, organisation, and performance which the government could not ignore.

The first and most immediate was the price of beer. There was no doubt that during 1976 and 1977 there was much resentment about the frequency with which one price increase had followed another. There was a time when the major breweries increased prices every three months.

If there ever had been a real need for such frequent increases, the time when they were necessary was past. For six months there had been a steady fall in the rate of inflation. The fall would continue and it would become more and more difficult to justify, either to the Price Commission or to public opinion, the regular, indeed routine, increase in beer prices.

Price was the most immediate and controversial issue facing the industry, but there was a more fundamental issue to which the industry must give thought. Both the Monopolies Commission in 1969 and the Price Commission last year had expressed great concern about the structure of the industry. There was the unusual degree of vertical and horizontal integration, the absence of competition which restricted the customers' choice and insulated brewing from the full pressure of market forces.

There was scope for action in three major areas. The first was the ownership of so many licensed premises by the breweries themselves and the control that degree of ownership gave them over licencees. The second was the existence of local monopolies and the absence of choice between public houses. The third was the tie which restricted choice within a public house, usually more than either the licencee or his customers wished.

Southalls' price increases under investigation

Certain price increases of Southalls (Birmingham) Ltd are to be investigated by the Price Commission. The company prenotified to the commission on 23 December that they intended to increase the price of sanitary protection and other hygiene products.

The commission considered the proposed increases and decided that they should be the subject of an investigation under section 4 of the Price Commission Act 1977. The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection was notified of the commission's intention on 19 January.

The effect of the commission's decision to investigate is that the price increases proposed may not be implemented during the period of the investigation which must be completed within three months. However, the commission is able to allow interim price increases, and is obliged to do so to the extent to which the safeguard provisions operate.

Anyone who wishes to make any representations to the Price Commission in connection with this investigation should write to the Secretary, Price Commission, Neville House, Page Street, London SW1P 4LS.

Vegetable prices fall slows food price increases

Vegetable prices have fallen by 27 per cent in the last year. It was thanks to this, said Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, at the wholesale fruit and vegetable market in Sheffield on 21 January, that seasonal food had dropped in price by 15 per cent over the last year. The signs were that the slowing down of food price increases would continue.

Competition, when it was working, he said, affected us all in the most direct way through the prices we paid. In 1976, during the drought, prices were very high. There was the inevitable fear that these high prices would remain even when the special circumstances that had produced them had ended.

Food prices were now rising more slowly than prices generally, and the rate of increase had more than halved, from 25 per cent in July to 10½ per cent in December. He saw no signs that this favourable trend of the slowing down of food price increases, would do anything other than continue and intensify.

Industry makes good use of energy advice service

Over 400 inquiries have been made to the Department of Energy's Energy Quick Advice Service (EQAS) since it was introduced last September. Its aim is to enable industry, commerce and the public sector to obtain as quickly as possible answers to questions about the use of energy in industry and in the building services field.

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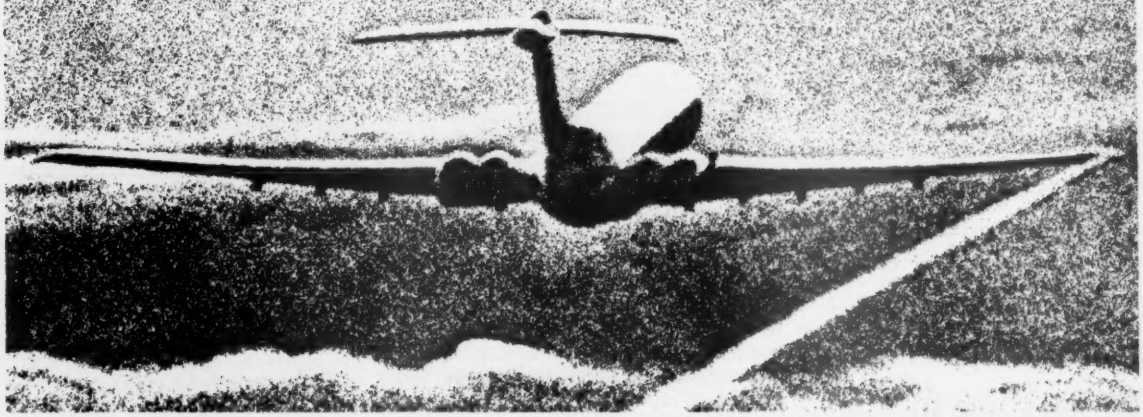

If you send parcels abroad by ordinary air freight, you expect to pay certain additional charges, for things like collection, documentation, customs clearance, airport handling and delivery at the far end. They could add up to as much as £15 per item.

But when you use the Post Office Air Parcel Service things are a lot easier. For example you can post at any one of 19,000 accepting offices or, if you have enough parcels, we will collect them from you free. And documentation: you fill in one or two simple forms and that's all there is to it.

We'll see your parcels through the customs and on to the plane with minimum fuss and maximum efficiency.

And what do you pay for? The stamps.

Another thing: air freight is airport-to-airport and mostly confined to major routes. The Post Office offers a virtually world-wide door-to-door service and, with the exception of one or two countries that raise a small delivery charge, you get free delivery too.

Give your parcels the VIP treatment.

Send your parcels abroad by the Post Office Air Parcel Service and we'll put the red carpet out for them all the way. They'll get priority treatment, quick customs clearance (we have customs officers on the spot) and enjoy full security.

We have the largest network of collection points in the country and we're linked to the postal services of just about every other country in the world. And with the few exceptions mentioned there are no 'extras' of any kind.

If you or your post room staff would like more details or advice, just contact Bob Johnson, Room 127, FREEPOST* Postal Headquarters, St. Martins-le-Grand, LONDON, EC1B 1HQ. Tel: 01-432 4049.
*No stamp required.

Royal Mail

Consultants employed
EQAS employs consultants, under contract to the department, and the Post Office's Freefone telephone system is used. An analysis of the inquiries received over the past three months shows that most calls have been about heating problems and insulation matters. The majority of the firms using the service employ more than 100 people and industry has been making most use of the service.

Freefone numbers
Organisations wishing to use the Energy Quick Advice Service should dial 100 for the operator and then ask for the following Freefone numbers: **Industrial questions:** England and Wales, Freefone 6222, Scotland; Freefone 8305. **Building services questions:** England, Scotland and Wales; Freefone 3140.

Merger proposals cleared

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has decided on the information at present before him, not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:
Andrew Weir and Co Ltd and Spink and Son Ltd
Gibbs Nathaniel Ltd and A. J. Mills (Holdings) Ltd
ISC Alloys Ltd (a RTZ subsidiary) and The Cathodic Protection interests of BKL Alloys Ltd (a GKN subsidiary).

Restrictions in competition lifted in service industries – Borrie

Gordon Borrie, Director-General of Fair Trading, on 18 January revealed that, so far, major restrictions on free competition have been given up voluntarily in some 16 service industries.

Addressing a meeting of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce, Mr Borrie said that since the law on restrictive trade practices had been extended in 1976 to cover the service industries, the Office of Fair Trading had been busy examining details of local, regional and national agreements operated in various trades and business activities and, where appropriate, placing agreements on the public register.

Mr Borrie said that perhaps the most telling evidence of the hidden value of OFT's work in this sector was the way that major restrictions had been dismantled at little or no expense to the taxpayer and with often widespread benefits to the public or particular sections of it. The practical effects could be most vividly illustrated by a few examples. The radio and television repairers' organisation had decided to abandon its national scale of charges for repairs and call-out charges; the individual repairer could set his own charges and, if he wished, make a special sales point of them.

Another example he gave was holiday trade which had in the past been rigidly bound by rules promulgated by its trade association. No price-cutting was allowed, travel agents were told exactly what they must charge for extra services like getting a passport or arranging holiday insurance. No travel agent was allowed to offer a customer a discount or any other inducement, such as free transport to the airport. Now, all that had been swept away – the trade association was no longer imposing these limitations.

Electronic component projects approved, but more needed

Electronic components industry projects, costing £24 million in total, have been approved by the Department of Industry under its scheme to assist in improving the efficiency and competitiveness of the industry. The department will contribute £7 million towards the cost of the 19 projects involved.

Since its launch in January 1977, 66 applications have been received for the £20 million electronic components industry scheme of selective assistance under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972. Eleven have been withdrawn or rejected and the rest, apart from the ones approved, are being processed.

Companies are reminded that the department needs to receive projects for consideration by 31 July 1978. The present rate of applications suggests the funds available may not be taken up unless more good projects are received before that date.

The scheme's management committee has decided to encourage more proposals in the printed circuit board area. Companies are invited to contact the department with any new proposals before 31 March 1978 when all proposals in this area will be reviewed.

Inquiries and submissions for this scheme should be addressed to Department of Industry, Computers, Systems and Electronics Division (2), Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 6075.

Ayrshire employment boost from SDA aero-engine investment

More than £4 million is to be invested by the Scottish Development Agency in bringing Caledonian Airways £8 million aircraft engine workshops to Prestwick.

'This is among the agency's biggest investments in bringing new industry and jobs to Scotland,' said Sir William Gray, chairman of the SDA, on 19 January. 'The workshops, the most modern of their type in Europe, are very welcome in Scotland, and particularly in Ayrshire where traditional industries have felt the cold draught of redundancy in recent years.'

A £3.5 million secured loan will be made to Caledonian Airways (Prestwick) Ltd, a subsidiary of Caledonian Airways Ltd, which will lease 19 acres of an industrial estate at Shaw Farm, Prestwick. The parent company will arrange the balance of the development costs, such as for plant and machinery, and is to guarantee the loan.

The agency will spend a further £750,000 in buying land, building roads, servicing the site and re-shaping the adjoining Glenburn Colliery slag heap.

New range of loans for Wales announced . . .

A new range of cheap loans to companies in rural areas employing up to 20 skilled men are offered by the Development Board for Rural Wales. Loans can be up to £30,000.

For loans of up to five years the interest rate will be 6½ per cent, rising to 7½ per cent for periods between five and 10 years. Loans can be offered on up to 80 per cent of the total cost of any project.

. . . and factories to create employment there

Of the 91 advance factories in Wales, including nursery units, completed since February 1974, 45 had been let, John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, told parliament on 16 January.

A further 22 had been provisionally allocated or were subject to current applications. Tenants were being actively sought for the 24 factories that remained unlet. He added that the average number of employees in each of the occupied factories was 37.

Amendments to state pension regulations drafted

David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, has asked the national insurance advisory committee to consider and report to him on draft regulations[1] amending certain provisions of the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 1975.

Under the new pension arrangements which start in April 1978 employees may earn additional pension benefits either through the state pension scheme or through occupational pension schemes. An employer who proposed to provide the new benefits through his occupational scheme may elect to contract out of part of the state scheme, in which event he and his employees will pay lower contributions to that scheme. The draft regulations deal with

[1] 'Preliminary draft of the Social Security (Contributions) Amendment Regulations 1978'. Copies may be obtained by sending a stamped and addressed foolscap envelope to the Secretary, National Insurance Advisory Committee, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6BY.

the deduction, refund and recovery of contributions in particular circumstances where an application for contracting-out has been made or an existing contracting-out certificate is cancelled, varied or surrendered.

The national insurance advisory committee will consider representations on the draft regulations received by them not later than 17 February. Representations should be made in writing to the Secretary, National Insurance Advisory Committee, Alexander Fleming House, Elephant and Castle, London SE1 6BY.

Sterling equivalents revised for liability limits of shipowners . . .

A new merchant shipping order [1] which specifies the sterling equivalents of limits of a shipowners' liability will come into operation on 1 February. The limits are expressed as gold franc amounts in various international agreements to which the United Kingdom is a party. The revised limits will apply in cases not settled before February 1.

The sterling equivalents are calculated by reference to the special drawing right (SDR) value of a gold franc, converted into sterling at an average SDR/sterling exchange rate taken over a recent period.

The new order also specifies, for the first time, the official values in sterling of the gold franc amounts by reference to which liability is limited under the Athens Convention relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea 1974. Section 28 of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977, which also comes into force on 1 February, permits contracts for the carriage by sea of passengers and their luggage to incorporate such restrictions on a carrier's liability as are contained in the Athens convention, although the convention itself has not yet entered into force.

. . . and of air carriers

A change in the sterling limits of air carriers' liability for death or injury to their passengers or loss or damage to baggage and cargo, will come into operation on 1 February as a consequence of a new carriage by air order [2]. Because the limit applicable is that in effect at the date of judgement rather than at the date of any accident, the new limits will also apply in cases not settled before 1 February. The new sterling equivalents are given below.

	1978 order	1977 order
Passenger liability		
most international carriage (per passenger)	£10,780	£11,700
non-international carriage (per passenger)	£37,726	£40,950
Baggage and cargo liability		
registered baggage and cargo (per kilogram)	£10.78	£11.70
baggage in charge of passenger (per passenger)	£216.00	£234.00

[1] 'The Merchant Shipping (Sterling Equivalents) (Various Enactments) Order 1978, SI 1978 No. 54', HMSO, price 10p each.

[2] Carriage by Air (Sterling Equivalents) Order 1978, SI 1978 No. 31,' HMSO, price 10p.

British airlines, however, are required to contract for a limit of liability for death or personal injury to passengers of not less than £25,000 in their international carriage. This figure, being quoted in sterling, is not affected by the new order. Many foreign airlines have also contracted for a higher limit.

Action committee proposes authority for film industry

Proposals for the setting up of a British film authority are set out in the report [1] on the interim action committee on the film industry which was published on 19 January. Sir Harold Wilson, chairman of the committee, emphasised that the committee's prime consideration had been not only that this body should have the authority which its name implied but also that it should be entirely acceptable to the industry.

Set up by the Secretary of State for Trade in April 1977, the committee was required to advise on the achievement of a viable and prosperous British film industry.

On the objects and powers of the authority, Mr Wilson explained that it was proposed that, subject to the overall direction of the minister, the authority would be charged with fostering and promoting the well-being of film in the wide sense.

The authority would see what more statistical information about the industry ought to be collected and used in formulating long-term future policies, whether these related to the sort of films which ought to be made, or to manpower planning, training, career structures and so on. It should also establish a new agency aimed at improving the opportunities for selling British film and British facilities abroad.

The authority would take over all the functions at present carried out by the Department of Trade and the functions of the NFFC would pass to the authority. Responsibility for the advisory functions now performed by the Cinematograph Films Council would pass to the authority. It would also take over the primary responsibility for the administration of the British Film Fund. No changes were proposed for the National Film School, the British Film Institute and the National Film Archive. The committee made no proposals that the authority should have specific powers with regard to barring and allocation of product.

The costs of operating the authority would initially amount to £500,000 per annum. This figure included the present operating costs of the NFFC (about £150,000) and those costs of the Department of Trade (at present about £73,000 per annum) which were recoverable by way of licence and registration fees. The net additional cost was likely to be only a little more than half of the gross figure.

The committee expressed the view that it was logical and sensible that responsibility for film as an industry and film as an art should be unified, to a single minister.

[1] 'Proposals for the setting up of a British Film Authority' (Cmnd 7071), HMSO, price 35p.

Advertisements for 'Trade and Industry'

All advertisement inquiries and bookings should be addressed to the Advertisement Department at 13 Great James Street, London WC1, telephone 01-242 9478.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified.

11 January 1978

1259302 International Standard Electric Corporation
Single channel carrier system
1375877 International Standard Electric Corporation
Coaxial cable
1410121 International Standard Electric Corporation
Radiolocation system and method
14444314 International Standard Electric Corporation
A trace arrangement for simulation device
1291288 Globe-Union Inc
Improvements in ganged modular push button switch assemblies
1428230 Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen
Improvements in the power assisted manual control systems for emergency brakes of motor vehicles.
1435310 Dia-Prosim
Removal of SO_2 from gas
1469870 Albert Gambon
Installation for giving driving instruction

16 January 1978

1250588 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in electromagnetic door safety latch systems
1378098 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in or relating to wiper devices for vehicles
1384955 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
A method and device for supplying fuel to a cylinder of an internal combustion engine
1390041 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in methods of measuring a mean pressure in a fluid medium in which pulsating pressure waves occur
1409192 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in steering wheels for automotive vehicles
1417616 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in loose ball type three-way solenoid valves
1448093 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault and Automobiles Peugeot
Improvements in methods of measuring instantaneously a mean pressure of a fluid medium in which pulsated pressure waves are circulated and device therefor
1420845 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault
Improvements in the mounting of floating nuts for controlling machine tool members
1425227 Regie Nationale Des Usines Renault
A rotary positive displacement machine
1178575 EMI Ltd
Improvements relating to television and like cameras
1252928 EMI Ltd
Improvements relating to temperature sensitive electrical switches and other control elements
1159361 Societe Bertin and Cie
Handling devices incorporating gripping members
1159362 Societe Bertin and Cie
Handling devices incorporating gripping members

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which the claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

I. J. G. Davis, Comptroller

Marine safety committee reports on inter-departmental co-ordination

Offshore safety and, particularly, the Ekofisk blow-out of last April feature prominently in the first report [1] of the Inter-departmental Committee on Marine Safety (ICMS). The report, presented to parliament on 25 January by Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Trade, covers the past 18 months of the committee's work 'to co-ordinate the development and implementation of policy relating to safety at sea'.

Set-up on 30 July 1976 under the chairmanship of the Department of Trade, the inter-departmental committee has no executive function. It is emphasised that its role is that of co-ordinating regulations made under offshore, marine and industrial safety legislation, to keep under review developing international requirements, and to develop common attitudes on the enforcement of United Kingdom regulations including inspection methods and inquiry procedures.

Organisations which have attended the committee's meetings are the Departments of Energy, Industry and the Environment; Health and Safety Executive; Ministry of Defence; Scottish Office; National Maritime Institute; National Environmental Research Council; and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Offshore safety has been the main interest of the committee in the period covered by the report. Inevitably, the Ekofisk blow-out of 22 April 1977 featured prominently in the committee's work. A group was set-up under Department of Energy chairmanship to look into the government's response and its implications should a blow-out occur in the UK sector. It recommended that a blow-out emergency team of departmental experts should provide an on-the-spot service at the appropriate 'port of operation', to liaise with the operators concerned and to directly supervise pollution clearance, assisted by a clearance advisory panel of officials working from London.

As an important first task, the committee clearly defined individual responsibilities for policy questions, for operational activities such as accident casualty investigations and for the day to day enforcement of regulations. This information was published as a 'Marine Activities Guide'.

Attention was also given to the order in council extending the scope of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 to offshore installations and pipelines, and to the interface between the responsibilities of the Departments of Trade and Energy and the Health and Safety Executive. Maximum effectiveness in the use of available expertise and resources was another objective and practical examples of this include arrangements for Department of Energy inspectors and Department of Trade marine surveyors to carry out surveys and inspections and advise on safety matters covered by the Health and Safety at Work etc Act and Department of Energy legislation.

Other offshore matters covered in the committee's report concern the safety of installations during construction, the safety of cranes used offshore, safety requirements for oil rig stand-by vessels, the rescue of divers operating under compression, and the danger to navigation of large towed unmanned vessels.

Apart from offshore safety, the committee reviewed such matters as the safety research programmes [2] and the principles and practices of charges, for example, for surveys. The work of other committees and developments in the field of marine safety were kept under review.

In 1978 the committee expects to complete work on outstanding studies in the first half of the year. It also hopes to review occupational safety at sea and emergency planning covering major search and rescue and anti-pollution measures.

'Marine Activities: guide to the responsibility of government departments and agencies', HMSO, 1977, price £1.00. Available from government bookshops.

[1] 'Report of the Inter-departmental Committee on Marine Safety' can be obtained, free of charge, from the Secretary, ICMS, Room 3/21, Sunley House, High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP.

[2] A list of current R & D projects is available on request from the secretary of the ICMS.

Extension of safety radio area proposed

Comments on a proposal to extend the fishing vessel safety radio area to include an area around Bear Island off northern Norway are invited by the Department of Trade.

The fishing vessel safety radio area currently extends from the northern coast of France up to Iceland and Scandinavia. Within this area, fishing vessels over 12 m in length are required to carry medium frequency radio telephone equipment; outside the area they are additionally required to carry radio telegraph equipment and a qualified radio telegraph operator.

Because Bear Island is outside the safety radio area, vessels fishing there at present are required to carry the more elaborate equipment. The changing pattern of fishing has meant that more vessels are now fishing off Bear Island; in addition there is a 24 hour service, including a distress watch, by Bjornoya Radio on the island. Because of this the department considers that the proposed extension of the safety radio area might be of value to the industry (in that less expensive equipment would be required) while not impairing safety. Comments should be addressed to the Department of Trade, Marine Division, Room 7-8, Sunley House, 90-93 High Holborn, London WC1V 6LP.

Distress radio coverage off western Scotland extended

Coverage of the maritime distress watch off western Scotland will be increased early in 1978 by the provision of a coastguard medium frequency station on the Civil Aviation Authority site at Mangasta. It will operate for distress purposes until a new radio station at Gallan Head on the isle of Lewis, to be called Hebrides Radio, begins operating in late 1979.

The Department of Trade has agreed with the Post Office to share the new station which, as well as providing extended facilities for HM Coastguard for distress and safety purposes, will also provide medium frequency commercial communications for fishermen and for other sea users to the west and north-west of Scotland.

Hebrides Radio forms a part of the improvements which the Department of Trade is making to the maritime radio service in the area. The coastguard communications watch on vhf channel 16, the international distress, safety and calling channel, will be extended by a new network of 13 vhf stations between the Clyde and Durness. Work on the new network is expected to be completed by 1980, when all but two of the stations will operate on a 24-hour basis.

Official appointments

South-west Transport Users' Consultative Committee: Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr P. J. Chester, Mr J. I. Pope, Mr S. R. Allsopp, Mrs B. M. Batchelor, Cllr D. J. W. Cleverly and Mr K. R. Scudamore as members of the Transport Users' Consultative Committee for the south-west until 31 August 1980.

British Shipbuilders: Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has announced that John Parker has accepted an invitation to become a full-time member of the board of British Shipbuilders. Mr Parker will serve as the shipbuilding member and his appointment will take effect from 1 February 1978.

New publications

Middle East desk research sources

This week we are publishing the second in an occasional series of articles on the services provided by the Department of Trade's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library (Smil)[1]. It covers some of the more recent sources on Middle East countries.

Smil's primary function, to provide statistics, can sometimes divert attention from the wide range of other sources available at the library. For the Middle East countries in particular, new sources of published information are continually becoming available[2].

As part of their customer services, the economic or export departments of the banks have always published brief, up-to-date country surveys, which give general background and some current statistics. During the period under review Lloyds has issued new editions of its economic reports on Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Natwest has provided them on nine Middle East countries, Grindley's on six, Barclays on 11 and the British Bank of the Middle East on six countries in the area. All of these, plus single issues of reports issued by other banks, may be found in the library. Then there is the more detailed 'Business Practice in Iran', published by the British Overseas Trade Board, which is also available to British businessmen free of charge from Export Services and Promotions Division, Room D05, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

The library has in stock many general books providing background and historical information. A useful addition to this category of publications is the 'Middle East Yearbook', an annual prepared by the Centre for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (a department of the University of Durham). Published by the *Middle East Magazine* (63 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JH, 1977, price £14 – 1978 edition will be available shortly), it covers north Africa, Sudan, Turkey and Iran as well as the 'core' Middle Eastern countries. It provides a series of general articles on geography, history, climate, as well as assessments of the area's role in the modern world. Relations between the Middle East and the UK, the EEC, and the third world are also examined.

Similarly arranged, but with slightly different coverage, is the 'Middle East Annual Review'. This incorporates material prepared by the Economist Intelligence Unit, and is published by the Middle East Review Co Ltd (1978 edition available from The World of Information, 21 Gold Street, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1EJ, price £11.50). The publishers claim not to be able to reprint all the available data, either because it is too specialised or because it is too sensitive for international publication, and they invite readers to contact them. It should be added, of course, that much information may be similarly available from the various export-orientated divisions of the Department of Trade.

If more factual directory-type information is required, then 'The Businessmen's Guide to the Middle East' by Lilian Africano (Harper and Row, 28 Tavistock Street, London WC2E 7PN, 1977, price £7.50) should be of value. This lists addresses of banks, chambers of commerce, translation and other useful agencies. There are also articles on the major Middle Eastern countries, including details of their development plans and business laws. Advice and warnings are given to prepare the European businessman for all the possible nuances and specific conventions of commercial life, which are likely to confront him. The latter is also humourously covered in James Peters' handy booklet 'Simple Etiquette in Arabia' (Paul Norbury Publications Ltd, Caxton House, High Street, Tenterden, Kent, price £1.45). A useful feature of the book is the provision of a range of simple basic words in Arabic.

A general compilation only recently received, though ostensibly rather older, is the 'Arab Trade Directory' (9th edition, 1975-76), produced from offices in Beirut and Baghdad. The Arab country sections take up 352 pages – in each there is a short introductory note, a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of companies classified according to a rough subject arrangement, distinguishing between manufacturers and importers, and a list of the subject heading used. The rest of the book consists of similar but briefer section on other countries in the world which have trading links with the Arabs, including Iran and Turkey, and a large Arabic language section.

For inquirers with particular interest in the oil-producing countries in the area, a useful compilation is 'The Gulf Handbook' now in its second edition, 1978 (produced jointly by Trade and Travel Publications Ltd, Mendip Press, Parsonage Lane, Bath BA1 1EN, and the *Middle East Economic Digest*, 84 Chancery Lane, London WC2, £7.84). Covering Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, it provides data on a variety of topics including government ministers, diplomatic representatives, hotels, restaurants and newspapers. Statistical summaries and outline health, climate and visa information is also included.

Tracing reliable up-to-date information about specific companies in the Arab world is one of the most troublesome areas in which available sources have been far below businessmen's expectations. This major gap in our commercial armoury is partly plugged by the invaluable 'Major Companies of the Arab World', and, 'Major Companies of Iran', a pair of volumes updating what started out as a one-volume compilation in 1975. Having been split into two volumes, the 1977 editions were enlarged (except in the case of Lebanon, which has been dropped altogether until business activity there has returned to a normal pattern). They are available from Graham and Trotman, Bond Street House, 14 Clifford Street, London W1X 1RD, priced £19 and £12 respectively.

Information about companies is based on replies to a questionnaire and includes data on principal activities of each company, number of employees, details of senior staff, principal subsidiaries or affiliates, agencies held, countries in which the company is active, and an outline of its financial standing, its profits and its bankers. The publishers Graham and Trotman have also previously published a research report on 'The Construction Industry and Market in Iran' (price £35).

Surveys of Middle Eastern countries including general data and business topics have appeared fairly regularly in the *Financial Times*, and it makes for considerable convenience to find that all these reports which they published on the Middle East between November 1976 and August 1977 have been reprinted in a handy reduced format in 'The Financial Times Middle East Surveys' (available from the *Financial Times*, Bracken House, 15 Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY, price £20). All the major countries of the area are included, together with surveys on shipping, banking and the construction industry. The articles include maps, photographs and statistical tables, and the information is in many cases more up-to-date than from many other published sources.

It can be unwise to rely on printed sources

What is Smil?

The Statistics and Market Intelligence Library (or 'Smil' as it is invariably known) is a public reference library established to enable British exporters to conduct their own desk research. It is located at Export House (50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368/369, telex 886143) where a public reading room is available 09.00 to 17.30 Mondays to Fridays, without prior appointment (last passes for the building are issued at 17.15). The library is primarily provided as a source of published information on overseas markets.

[1] The first was published in *Trade and Industry*, 15 April 1977 (page 63).
[2] Where known full details of publishers and prices have been quoted.

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for detailed information on legislation and rules and regulations in overseas countries. In the interest of topicality such inquiries should normally be directed to the Department of Trade's Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, EC4M 7HU, or the department's Commercial Relations and Exports divisions for the countries concerned (at 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET).

However, various publications that examine rules and regulations in operation in any country of interest can be valuable as background tools, and the CBI's recent 'Taxation in the Middle East, Africa and Asia' (available from the Confederation of British Industry, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LP, price £12.50) might be useful as a guide. Countries covered include Bahrain, Iran, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE, as well as others outside the scope of this article. It is claimed that the data provided are correct for 1975-76, with additions wherever possible by CBI correspondents up to 1 April 1977.

Potential visiting businessmen will also need to consider the cost of operating in the country of their choice. In this context another CBI publication which might prove helpful is entitled 'Middle East Costs' (from CBI, price £10). This survey aims to give a realistic idea of costs of business expenditure and daily life in Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the Sudan. Sterling exchange rates of summer 1977 are given, and the individual countries' approximate rate of inflation, thus providing a basis for interpreting the prices of accommodation, transport, food and drink, office services and salaries. Particularly interesting is the estimated cost of establishing an expatriate employee in the country concerned.

Individual Middle Eastern countries also produce directories of their business activities, though the publishing industry in most is as yet poorly developed, and the directories tend to be produced at irregular and infrequent intervals. Some recent additions to the library's stock include: 'Commercial Directory of Abu Dhabi' (Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 1975). This lists all the members of the chamber and classifies firms in the emirate into those handling consumer goods, development and construction, household goods, and services. Within further sub-divisions a distinction is made between foreign firms and those where the capital is at least 51 per cent local.

'The Commercial Directory of Oman 1976-77' (Arab Advertising Agency Ltd, Oman) gives the names, PO box and cable numbers of several hundred Omani firms, divided into subject headings in alphabetical order.

'The Blue Book of Iran' (Blue Book Co, PO Box 903, Tehran), now in its fourth edition, provides lists of exporters, importers, manufacturers and service industries in the country, again in alphabetical subject-heading order.

The library's collection of telephone directories in English is also a helpful source of information. Among the more recent issues held are Bahrain (1977-78), Kuwait (1975), Qatar (1974), Oman (1976), Saudi Arabia (Jeddah 1974-75; Riyadh 1973-74; Damman 1972-73) and the UAE (1976-77). If a telephone directory has a yellow pages section it serves as a directory in its own right; such sections are included in the directories for Bahrain, Qatar, and the UAE (Abu Dhabi only). For Iran, the Blue Book company produces a companion volume, the 'Tehran Yellow Book' (latest edition 1975), which provides a selection of the more important Tehran telephone numbers and addresses classified by professions.

This article only touches on the non-statistical sources at Smil. A wide range of other more recent desk-research materials are available, including, for example, development plans, and these can provide a cheap and convenient way to undertake initial research before becoming financially involved in any projected business enterprise.

A revised and updated edition of the Smil bibliography on Iran is now available free from the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

New products

Laser micro-machining system

Latest micro-machining system from BOC Industrial Power Beams, Daventry, Northants utilises a pulsed laser technique enabling pulse length and shape, as well as beam size, to be varied to cover operations ranging from single-shot hole drilling to highly delicate welding. The beam's immunity to magnetic fields enables all operations to be carried out on magnetised and unmagnetised components.

By using mirrors, the laser system can reach joints inaccessible to resistance-welding electrodes. Components can be welded in sealed systems (if there is a transparent window) under various atmospheres including vacuum, and insulated materials can be joined as the laser vaporises the insulation leaving the bare metal for fusion. Due to the beam's high peak power and relatively short pulse length, the heat-affected zone around the weld is particularly small so that precision welds can be made on printed circuit boards without damaging the substrate.

Used as a drill, the equipment can handle such difficult materials as ceramics, silicon, silicon carbide and nitride, synthetic diamonds and the latest super-alloys.

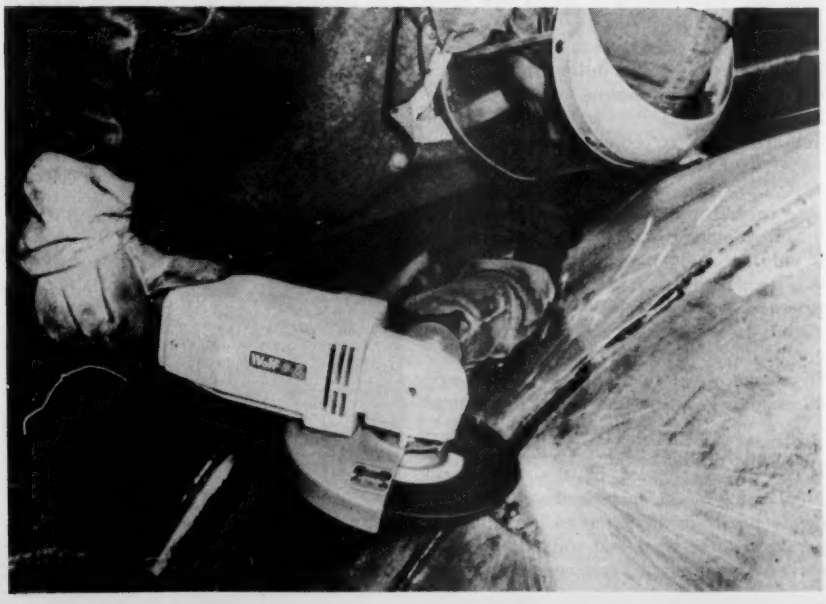
Model 203 micro-machining system for the automobile, lamp and electronics industries, cutting holes in filament extrusion dies and spinerettes and cutting and welding lamp filaments.

Further information: circle 323

Wolf introduce 2 kW angle grinders

Industrial power tool manufacturers, Wolf Electric Tools Ltd, have introduced two 2000 watt heavy duty angle grinders, for use on 110 volt supply systems. They are designed for very heavy duty grinding, fettling and cutting applications. The picture shows the new heavy duty Wolf Sapphire 230 mm 2000 watt angle grinder in action.

Further information: circle 324



Heavy-duty sanitary fittings launched at Design Centre

The Duke of Gloucester (left) with Ken Campbell, managing director of W. and G. Sissons Ltd, at the Design Centre display to launch Sissons' new range of stainless steel sanitary fittings, System 94. Designed by Alan Tye Design, System 94 stainless steel sanitary fittings are intended for heavy-duty use in areas where resistance to vandalism has a high priority, but are also suitable for hospitals and luxury applications. Several new and unique features are incorporated in the design and manufacture to give a standard of appearance and function not previously available in stainless steel.

Further information: circle 325

John Mott markets strong lightweight racquets

A design of tennis racquet utilising the strength and lightness of aluminium extrusions is now being marketed by John Mott Racquets of Farnham, Surrey.

The frame is manufactured from a one-piece, multi-hollow, miniature aluminium extrusion produced by Minalex Ltd, an Alcan Booth company. Designed for maximum strength/weight ratio, it is subjected after forming to a six-hour age hardening process under accurately controlled temperature conditions to stabilise the structure and to enhance the properties of the model. The aluminium racquet throat, aerodynamically designed for minimum wind resistance, is located in the frame without any form of external fixing such as screws or metal rivets.

Further information: circle 326

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Technology news

BSI registers firms for product quality capability

Manufacturers of precast flooring units are the first companies to be assessed and registered as being capable of manufacturing these products within strict quality control criteria. This registration of firms of assessed capability is a new approach to quality assurance introduced by the British Standards Institution.

The institution's registration system, based on a scheme of assessment and supervision (SAS), was launched in response to requests from industry. It is intended to provide accreditation for areas of industry not currently covered by existing certification schemes, and opportunities for the rationalisation of the multiple assessments with which manufacturers are now faced.

The need for such a system has arisen because in some areas certification schemes for particular products cannot be operated by BSI. This may be because there is no published British standard for the product, because the standard is not suitable for certification purposes, or because the standard includes clauses which are inappropriate to the certification system. This new system, by assessing the ability and competence of a company to manufacture a range of products within strict quality control criteria, goes one step further than product certification. It is hoped that the system will help to raise the national level of quality throughout industry.

The system is operated as a complement to BSI's third-party certification schemes, ie the Kitemark and the Safety Mark, and is not intended to replace them. It is based on a scheme of assessment and supervision, which lays down quality control requirements applicable to all manufacturing industries. For each specific product area a separate technical schedule is produced which relates the general requirements to those pertinent to that particular type of manufacture.

Firms seeking assessment and registration must first submit an application form and completed questionnaire together with their own quality manual. The procedures outlined in this manual are assessed against the requirements of the scheme and the technical schedule by experts in the relevant industry and in quality assurance. A team then visits the factory to ensure that the procedures are carried out in practice.

If the team is satisfied, a certificate of registration is issued. This is followed by regular surveillance visits made by a single assessor to ensure that the required standards are maintained. A register of firms of assessed capability will be produced, listing firms which have been assessed and found satisfactory, and showing the outline of the manufacturing capabilities.

The first scheme, covering precast concrete flooring units, has been launched. This flooring is used throughout the building industry to form the main horizontal load-bearing element of construction. The firms already registered under the system are: Booth Concrete Ltd, St Neots, Huntingdon; Richard Lees Ltd, Weston Underwood, near Derby; Quikspan Ltd, Poole; and Trent Concrete Ltd, Colwick.

Further information and copies of the prospectus and questionnaire can be obtained from Major Tony Baker, Quality Assurance Department, BSI, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, tel. Hemel Hempstead 3111.

Ferrographic analysis proves its worth

Ferrographic analysis of a routine monitoring of oil samples from a 30 cm bore roller-bearing in a pharmaceutical centrifuge showed increasing amounts of corrosion and wear debris. A warning was given that failure could be expected and about one month later the hearing failed in a catastrophic manner and the machine had to be shut-down for repair.

This example of the capabilities of ferrography, a technique which involves the collection and detailed examination of the wear debris present in oil samples taken from operating plant and machinery, was given recently by the National Centre of Tribology, Risley, Warrington.

Originally developed in the United States, the ferrographic technique separates magnetic wear debris from a lubricant sample and arranges it according to size on a transparent substrate for examination under an optical or scanning electron microscope. The wear particles may range in size from less than 0.1 micron to several hundred microns and it is only necessary that they possess a weak magnetic moment. In the case of bronze and polymeric wear debris from material rubbed against steel, particles are produced which are readily detected. The method has the advantage of extremely high sensitivity and of producing a spectrum of particle sizes and types.

Since the project for the evaluation of the technique was funded by the Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tools Requirements Board in 1976 for an experimental period of three years and collaboration was invited from interested companies, the centre reports that it has examined oil samples from approximately 20 companies, covering such areas as civil airline aero-engines; marine, railway and truck diesel engines and gearboxes; chemical plant pumps and centrifuges; large wet plate brake systems and steel mill roller-bearings. In addition the suspended solids in a diesel engine lubrication system have been examined to evaluate the effectiveness of the filtration.

In each case the authority holds consultations with the industry concerned to decide on the extent of the collaboration programme required to obtain the maximum information on the capabilities of the technique in that particular industry. A case history was given in *Trade and Industry* on 15 April 1977, page 60.

Advanced vapour synthesis makes unique molecules

This chemical vapour synthesis plant can create new molecules for research or new industrial catalysts that cannot be made by any other means. Developed by G. V. Planer Ltd, an R and D organisation in Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex, 10 units have been sold so far to universities and industrial laboratories in north America, Japan and Europe. The process represents an advance in synthetic chemistry in which highly reactive metallic atoms at high temperature are produced inside the reaction vessel using an electron beam heat source. The resulting vapour is then condensed with a chosen organic co-reactant on a cold surface. The use of the electron beam allows high-melting-point metals and metal oxides to be evaporated in high-purity form. In addition to the preparation of new compounds, vapour synthesis makes possible considerable improvements in the rate of production of known compounds. It is an effective method of investigating the nature of known catalysts – substances that change the rate of a chemical reaction, but themselves remain unchanged at the end of the process – being increasingly used by industry and by universities in many parts of the world.

Further information: circle 327

Parliament

Monday, 16 January

Movement in retail price index
Colin Shepherd (Hereford) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what was the retail price index on 1 January 1978 compared with that on 1 August 1976.

Mr Maclennan replied that the retail price index, which reflected prices at approximately the middle of the month, stood at 158.5 in August 1976. In November 1977, which was the latest available figure, the index stood at 187.4. This represented an increase of 18.2 per cent.

Unsolicited goods and services
Anthony Grant (Harrow Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he would make representations to the government of the Republic of Ireland to take action to prevent infringement of the Unsolicited Goods and Services (Amendment) Act 1975 by persons or firms operating from the Republic of Ireland; and if he would make representations in the council of ministers of the EEC for EEC member states to provide similar legislation to check the abuses prohibited by the Unsolicited Goods and Services (Amendment) Act 1975.

Mr Fraser said that his department was in touch with the Irish Department of Industry, Commerce and Energy about this question. The Republic of Ireland did not at present have legislation comparable to the UK unsolicited goods and services legislation. He said that he understood, however, that such legislation was proposed and that the Irish government hoped to introduce a bill in the next session of the Dail. He said that he would continue to bear in mind the possibility of raising this matter in the EEC. At present problems arose mainly from documents emanating from the Republic of Ireland but he recognised that documents from other countries, both inside and outside the EEC, had caused difficulties and might do so in the future.

Amendments to the fair trading act
Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he planned to introduce legislation this session to amend the Fair Trading Act 1973; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Fraser said that he regretted that parliamentary time would not be available for such legislation in this session. He hoped, however, to be in a position to introduce legislation in the 1978-79 session.

Christmas fairy light standards
John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection what discussions he had had with the British Standards Institution and the International Standards Organisation to ensure an adequate standard of reliability and quality of Christmas fairy lights; and whether he was satisfied that imported lights were marked with an adequate indication of country of origin.

Mr Fraser replied that his department was represented on the committee of the British Standards Institution (BSI) dealing with British standard 4647 for Christmas fairy lights, where the main concern was the safety of equipment under consumer protection act regulations. There had been no occasion to make departmental representations to BSI about the quality and reliability of these products. Mr Fraser said that he had no reason to be dissatisfied with country of origin markings on imported lights, where these were required under the Trade Descriptions Act 1972.

European Trade Mark Office
Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would use his endeavours to ensure that the European Trade Mark Office was located in the United Kingdom, and preferably in Birmingham.

Mr Clinton Davis said that in 1973 the then government had proposed to Britain's community partners that the community trade mark office should be located in London and the present government had endorsed this policy. The possibility of locating the office elsewhere in the UK was considered but, for a number of reasons, in particular its ease of access for applicants from abroad, it was decided that a bid based on London was most likely to succeed.

Spanish tariff concessions
John Ovenden (Gravesend) asked what progress had been made in securing reciprocal tariff concessions from Spain in respect of those United Kingdom exports which were excluded from concessions under the provisions of the 1970 EEC/Spain agreement which came into force on 1 July 1977.

Mr Meacher replied that at its meeting on 20 December 1977 the EEC council of ministers had agreed on proposals for a revision of the EEC/Spain trade agreement. Negotiations with Spain on these proposals were expected to open shortly. One of the community's objectives would be to secure tariff concessions from Spain on those products which did not at present receive them.

Paper and board
Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked the Secretary of State for Trade which non-EEC Nordic countries at present had duty-free access to the United Kingdom market for paper and board; and if he would make a statement on the government's policy to rationalise the duty charged on paper and board imports into the EEC from non-EEC Nordic countries.

Mr Meacher stated that the duties on paper and board entering the UK market from Norway, Sweden and Finland were governed by the agreements made with each of them by the European Economic Community in 1972 and 1973.

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) also asked for the quotas and consumption percentage change for the paper and board industry, for the years 1974 to 1977 inclusive, taking 1974 as the base year; the figures for the agreed duty-free quota tonnage in 1978; and the projected United Kingdom consumption of paper and board for 1978.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

PAPER AND BOARD

	Duty-free quota levels		UK apparent consumption	
	000s tonnes	1974=100	000s tonnes	1974=100
1974	1 207.5	100.0	6375	100.0
1975	1 321.8	109.5	4669	73.0
1976	1 344.5	111.3	5433	85.0
1977	1 366.1	113.1	5760 [1]	90.0

The figures for apparent consumption exclude newsprint which is the subject of a separate community duty-free quota from all sources.
The agreed duty-free quota for 1978 is 1 386 610 tonnes. No estimates of UK apparent consumption of paper and board are available for 1978.
[1] Estimate.

English Tourist Board
Philip Holland (Carlton) asked whether in view of the similarity in terms of reference and activities between the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourist Board, economies in public expenditure could be effected by eliminating the English Tourist Board as a separate organisation.

Mr Meacher said that the premise in the question was incorrect. The British Tourist Authority was mainly concerned with overseas promotion in respect of the whole of Britain whereas the English Tourist Board directed its different and specialised expertise towards encouraging tourism in England, both in promotion and the provision and improvement of tourist amenities and facilities.

Tourism earnings
Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked what were the total foreign currency earnings from tourism for the year 1977; the figures for each of the previous six years; and what annual percentage increase these figures indicated.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	Expenditure by overseas visitors £ million	Percentage increase on previous year
1971	486	12.5
1972	546	12.3
1973	681	24.7
1974	837	22.9
1975	1 123	32.6
1976	1 628	45.0
1977 (Jan-Sept) [1]	1 679	38.0 [2]

[1] Latest available information. [2] On corresponding period of previous year.
These figures relate to the travel account of the balance of payments; tourists will also spend foreign currency on other items, eg fares, which are included in other accounts of the balance of payments.

Industry act cover of foreign exchange losses
Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked what estimate or provision had been made for the possible cost to public funds of the new scheme under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 to guarantee borrowers from the European Investment Bank in assisted areas of the United Kingdom against possible foreign exchange losses; and how many applications for cover under the scheme had been made so far.

Mr Cryer replied that the cost of the scheme would depend on movements of the sterling exchange rate as well as on the number and amount of applications for cover which were agreed. If sterling appreciated between the date of disbursement of an individual loan and the dates of payment of interest and capital, the government would make a profit. The government's charge of 1 per cent per annum on the value of the outstanding loan would cover administration and would also help to offset the cost of the scheme in the event of sterling depreciation. A number of inquiries had been made about the scheme which was introduced on 1 January. None of these had yet reached the stage of a formal request for cover.

Credit and assistance for ship-owners
Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if terms were available to British shipowners, as good as those offered to Polish shipowners, regarding government assistance.

Mr Huckfield said that a similar scale of government supported credit and assistance from the intervention fund would be available for an order from a British owner in appropriate circumstances.

Special development areas
David Mudd (Falmouth and Camborne) asked the Secretary of State for Industry which were the specific locations granted

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

special development area status in 1977; and if he would identify the criteria applied in each such case.

Mr Cryer replied that the employment office areas of Arbroath, Cumnock, Dundee, Kilbirnie and Lanark were designated as special development areas in 1977. The criteria applied were those laid down in section 1(4) of the Industry Act 1972 which required the secretary of state to have regard to 'all the circumstances actual and expected, including the state of employment and unemployment, population changes, migration and the objectives of regional policies'.

Bottles and caps for pharmaceuticals

Stephen Ross (Isle of Wight) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what information he had on why British firms were apparently unable to supply the pharmaceutical industry with a sufficient supply of bottles and caps.

Mr Cryer said that the main difficulty lay in matching the continuous production process for glass bottles with fluctuations in demand. Production of pharmaceutical bottles in 1977 increased by 7 per cent over 1976, but at present demand exceeded supply. The situation should ease later this year when new plant now under construction came on stream. Although there had been a bottle cap supply problem in the first half of 1977, he understood that this had been overcome.

National Enterprise Board

Robert Taylor (Croydon North West) asked what was the total number at present on the payroll of the National Enterprise board; and if that total included the recently announced northern panel and its staff.

Mr Huckfield stated that on 13 January 1978, there were eight members of the National Enterprise Board paid by the board, and two members eligible for such payment but not drawing it. One of the paid members was a member of the board's northern regional board. Payments to members of that board, and any aspect of staffing, were matters for the National Enterprise Board.

BAC chairman's salary

Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked why the full-time chairman of British Aerospace Corporation was paid less than his deputy and than two other members of his board of directors.

Mr Huckfield said that British Aerospace was treated for salary purposes as a second-tier nationalised industry; and the chairman received the salary prescribed for such an industry. Where appointments to the board, on constitution, were made from within the industry it was agreed that such members should be paid their pre-vesting company salaries.

Tuesday, 17 January

Industrial development advisory board

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he would give a list of the members of the industrial development advisory board and their salary and expenses; whether these could be drawn in addition to other public payments as received; how many meetings had been held; and what was the amount of time taken for the most convenient period.

Mr Cryer gave the following information:

Industrial development advisory board

Sir Robert Clark (chairman)	Chairman and chief executive, Hill Samuel Group Ltd
Sir William Barlow	Chairman, The Post Office
The Rt Hon Lord Brown, PC	Former chairman, Glacier Metal Co Ltd
Sir James Campbell Fraser	Managing director, Dunlop Holdings Ltd
Mr D. R. Chilvers	Senior investigation partner, Coopers and Lybrand chartered accountants
Mr S. T. Graham	Chief general manager, Midland Bank
Mr E. A. B. Hammond	Executive councillor, EETPU
Mr C. A. Hogg	Chairman, The International Paint Co
Mr J. D. Hughes	Vice-principal, Ruskin College, Oxford
Mr F. S. McWhirter	Partner, Peat Marwick Mitchell and Co
Mr C. H. Urwin	Assistant general secretary, TGWU

Mr Cryer pointed out that the board members received no salary; travel expenses for journeys to and from board meetings were recoverable. The board, which was established by the Industry Act 1972, had met 104 times since its first meeting on 18 October 1972. In 1977 there were 19 meetings. The number, timing and duration of board meetings was determined by the incidence of applications for assistance.

Metrication in small firms

David Watkins (Consett) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he was satisfied with progress in metrication among small firms in the engineering industry; and if he was taking any action to speed it up.

Mr Fraser said that the metric change in the engineering industry as a whole was bound to be a gradual process. Imperial production, particularly for spares and repairs (an area in which smaller firms were particularly important), was likely to continue on a diminishing scale for many years. The rate of metric progress was primarily a matter for the industry itself, though it was estimated that about half the total production of small firms by value was metric or had metric interfaces. Each firm had to make its own decision on the timing of the change in the light of its own circumstances. However it was government policy to encourage the change in engineering as part of the general transition to metric in the economy as a whole. The Metrication Board worked closely with organisations representing the industry and was currently discussing with the CBI what further efforts they could jointly make to assist the process of change. Small firms considering the metric change would be well advised to ask the Metrication Board for its free booklet *Going Metric in the Small Firm: A Practical Guide for Management*. Mr Fraser pointed out that last March, he had appointed to the Metrication Board Mr T. R. S. Lyon, chairman of the CBI's smaller firms council. He therefore had a means of maintaining direct contact with this important sector.

Warsaw pact country embargoes

Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what plans he had for amending the embargo list of goods and technical services which could be supplied to Warsaw pact countries; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Meacher replied that the lists were regularly reviewed with Britain's allies. The next review was due to start this autumn, and the results should become effective about a year later.

Wednesday, 18 January

Import restrictions on USSR steel

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether he would make a statement on his decision to impose import restrictions on steel from the USSR; and whether he would impose such restrictions on all imports where similar conditions prevailed irrespective of the country which was exporting to Great Britain.

Mr Meacher said that UK imports of steel from the USSR had increased about sixfold between 1976 and 1977. Since it had not been possible to reach a mutually acceptable understanding with the USSR about their deliveries of steel to the UK in 1978, it was necessary to impose import restrictions from the beginning of this year. He would wish to consider any similar cases in the light of progress made following the decision on 19 December of the European council of ministers that discussions should be held with a number of supplying countries about the prices and quantities of their exports of steel to the community in 1978.

Expenditure on imported grain

Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked what was the total expenditure on imported grain in the period 1974 to the latest date for which figures were available.

Mr Meacher said that in the period January 1974 to November 1977, inclusive, imports of grain (SITC(R) groups 041-045 and sub-group 048.11) were valued at £2,585 million cif.

Government policy on common fund

Kenneth Lomas (Huddersfield West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the policy of the government concerning the financing of the common fund; and if he considered that it should be through direct government contributions, rather than commodity agreements.

Mr Meacher said that as proposed by the developed countries collectively at the outset of the second session of the common fund conference, the fund's buffer stocking facility should in Britain's view be based on cash deposits from producer and consumer countries in the framework of international commodity agreements, and on market borrowing.

Companies bill and restrictions on auditors

Terence L. Higgins (Worthing) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if it remained his intention to introduce a companies bill in the present session of parliament; when it was likely to be introduced; and if it would include provisions covering the prohibition of auditors holding shares in companies which they audited, restrictions on auditors holding directorships in other companies, restrictions on loans to directors, and penalties for making them unlawfully.

Mr Clinton Davies replied that the secretary of state intended to introduce a companies bill this session: it would be ready in March. The scope of the bill had not been finally decided, but it would not contain new restrictions on auditors.

UK exports to Hong Kong and Japan

Sir Paul Bryan (Howden) asked what were the figures for British exports to Hong Kong and to Japan, respectively, expressed in terms of pounds sterling per head of the population of those two countries.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	Hong Kong	Japan
UK exports December 1976-November 1977 (to nearest £1000 fob)	£266 985 000	£459 880 000
Population	4 513 900[1]	113 272 000[2]
UK exports per head of population	£59.15	£4.06

[1] Source: Census and Statistics Department of the Hong Kong Government (mid-year 1977 estimate). [2] Source: Japanese Government Bureau of Statistics (December 1976 figure).

Thursday, 19 January

OECD code on multinational companies

Ivor Clemitson (Luton East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what steps were being taken by government to monitor compliance by subsidiaries of multinational companies in the United Kingdom with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development code of conduct on multinational companies.

Mr Williams said that OECD's committee on international investment and multinational enterprises provided a forum for member governments to keep the guidelines under review and to resolve any problems which might arise. The government was playing a full part in the work of the committee to which the business and industry advisory committee and the trade union advisory committee also expressed their views.

BSC price increases

Alexander Fletcher (Edinburgh North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he was aware that from 1 January the price of British Steel Corporation products had been increased by up to 40 per cent; and what estimate he had made of the effect of this increase on prices throughout the economy.

Mr Huckfield said that the stated increase of 40 per cent was inaccurate. Prices for most steel products were subject to treaty of Paris rules and were not covered by UK prices legislation. Taking account of European coal and steel community requirements, the British Steel Corporation was increasing prices for about one-third of their products by amounts ranging from 2 to 15 per cent, mainly at the lower end of the range. A 10 per cent increase in steel prices would directly increase the wholesale price index for all manufacturing output by 0.1 per cent.

Retail and capital goods prices

Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich West) asked what had been the rise in the retail price index taking 1970 as 100; and what had been the corresponding rise in the price of capital goods.

Mr Maclennan said that the latest information was as follows:

	November 1977 (1970=100)
Retail price index	256.3
Capital goods[1]	282.7

[1] Price index for capital expenditure on plant and machinery by manufacturing industry. Other details are given in 'Price Index Numbers for Current Cost Accounting' published by the Central Statistical Office.

Arthur Lewis (Newham North West) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to what extent he estimated the 2 per cent increase in prices as detailed in his

*written reply of 11 January (*Trade and Industry *20 January page 101) was due to the imposition of the 10 per cent guideline by the government on private and public wage settlements.*

Mr Maclennan said that in broad terms, it took between a year and 18 months for the effects of an increase in average earnings to work through into retail prices. Thus the small number of pay settlements which were made in the opening four months of the current pay round would have had a negligible direct effect on the retail price index by November 1977. The 2 per cent increase in the RPI between July and November 1977 was encouraging confirmation that the government's anti-inflation policies were reducing the rate of increase in prices as forecast.

Artificial fertiliser prices

Tom Litterick (Birmingham, Selly Oak) asked what was the level of artificial fertiliser prices compared to: (a) six months ago and (b) 12 months ago.

Mr Maclennan said that prices of artificial fertilisers in the output (home sales) sector of the wholesale price index rose by 14½ per cent on provisional figures in the 12 months to December 1977 and by 6½ per cent in the six months since June 1977.

Assay office for Wales

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection in view of the delays being experienced at the Assay Office in London, if he would take steps to set up a Welsh Assay Office as soon as possible.

Mr Fraser said that he would not. The reasons for the unfortunate delays which occurred during the first half of 1977 had disappeared. He understood that the current turnround time was two to four days. Moreover, any further assay office facility would have to be self financing in line with the existing assay offices and the number of items of precious metal originating in Wales was not sufficient to justify the cost of installing and staffing an additional office.

Implementation of the patents act

Ian Mikardo (Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow) asked the Secretary of State for Trade whether rules for implementation of the Patents Act would contain any provision for the Patent Office to keep an employee inventor informed on the status and development of the patent on his invention; what was his policy towards restriction of the prescribed period within which an employee might apply for compensation after the termination of a patent; and what consideration had been given to any minimum limit of time on the employee's right to claim compensation, as intended by the Patents Act; what steps he had taken to consult with the TUC and any appropriate unions on the implementation of sections 39-43 of the Patents Act; what progress he had made in devising rules for implementation of the Patents Act, particularly in relation to sections 39-43 on employee inventions.

Mr Clinton Davis said that he expected to lay the patents rules before parliament in the next few weeks. The rules would include a provision to the effect that an employed inventor must claim compensation within one year after the patent had ceased to have effect. It was not intended that a claim by the employee should be restricted to the benefit derived by the employer over a certain period prior to the date of the claim. The TUC and the Institute of Patentees and Inventors had been consulted and the rule had been approved unanimously by the standing advisory committee on patents on which these and several other organisations were represented. If an employee inventor made a request to the patent office he would be informed of events affecting the patent recorded on the patents register, in particular the date when a patent was granted and the date when it ceased to have effect.

Common fund negotiations

Jim Craigen (Glasgow, Maryhill) asked what progress had been made in the negotiations on establishing a common fund for stabilising commodity prices.

Mr Meacher said that the second session of the common fund conference was suspended on 1 December 1977, at the request of the developing countries. The final statement delivered at the session on behalf of the developed countries of group B included an assessment of progress achieved so far in the negotiations; and made clear that group B remained ready to continue the negotiations as soon as all groups could agree to do so.

Industrial productivity since 1970

Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would set out in tabular form the increase in British industrial productivity for each year since 1970, as compared with each of Great Britain's OECD partners on the same basis over the same period.

Mr Williams said that the following table presented estimates of the percentage changes in the volume of manufacturing output per employee for each year from 1971 to 1976 for the United Kingdom and 20 of her OECD partners on as consistent a basis as possible. Information concerning New Zealand, Iceland, Portugal and Turkey was not available.

VOLUME OF MANUFACTURING OUTPUT PER EMPLOYEE
PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
United Kingdom	+ 3	+ 6	+ 8	− 2	− 2	+ 4
Canada	+ 7	+ 5	+ 4	−	+ 1	+ 3
United States of America	+ 6	+ 7	+ 4	−	− 2	+ 8
Japan	+ 2	+ 9	+16	− 3	− 6	+17
Australia	+ 2	+ 2	+ 9	+ 1	− 1	+ 7
Austria [1]	+ 4	+ 7	+ 2	+ 5	− 2	+ 9
Belgium [1]	+ 5	+10	+11	+ 2	+ 6	+10
Denmark	+ 7	+ 6	−	− 1	+ 3	+11
Finland [1]	+ 2	+10	+ 5	− 1	− 3	+ 5
France	+ 4	+ 7	+ 5	+ 2	− 5	+10
Federal Republic of Germany	+ 3	+ 5	+ 7	−	− 1	+13
Greece	+ 4	+11	+ 9	− 3	+ 3	+ 4
Ireland	+ 6	+ 4	+ 7	+ 3	+ 2	+ 9
Italy	− 2	+ 5	+ 8	−	− 9	+11
Luxembourg [2]	− 5	−	+11	+ 4	−20	+ 9
Netherlands	+ 5	+ 8	+ 8	+ 4	− 3	+ 8
Norway	. .	. .	+ 7	+ 2	−11	+ 1
Spain	+ 2	+12	+10	+ 6	− 7	+ 5
Sweden	+ 4	+ 3	+ 5	− 5	− 3	+ 3
Switzerland	+ 3	+ 6	+ 6	+ 2	− 7	+11
Yugoslavia [3]	+ 4	+ 3	+ 2	+ 6	+ 2	−

[1] Changes relate to manufacturing plus mining and quarrying. [2] Changes relate to industry as a whole. [3] Changes relate to the 'socialised sector'.

Sources
OECD *Main Economic Indicators* and quarterly supplement *Industrial Production.*
UN *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics.*
CSO Monthly Digest of Statistics.

Symbols
− Nil or less than half the final digit shown.
. . Not available.

Government sales

8 February 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location
The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds 8

Auctioneers
Bartle and Son (Dept L), 52 Merrion Street, Leeds 2 (0532 450898)

Stores lying at Barlow and other depots in the Yorkshire area including clothing, furniture, engineering and machine tools, MT spares, aircraft spares and other items.

15 February 1978 – Miscellaneous

Location
Auctioneers' premises

Auctioneers
Woolland Son and Manico (Dept L), Kinterbury House, St Andrews Cross, Plymouth, Devon (0752 69292)

Stores lying at depots in the west country including textiles and clothing, furniture, machine and hand tools, vehicles and MT spares, engineering and electrical equipment, paint and other miscellaneous items.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale viewing times, etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 40p, postage 15p (postal orders only).

WEMBLEY AUCTION SALES 1978

7 February 1978

View Days: Day preceding and morning of sale

Location: Department of the Environment
Property Service Agency
Supplies Stores
India Pavilion
Exhibition Grounds
Wembley, Middx.
Tel. 01-903 2508

Description of Goods: Office and Miscellaneous furniture etc.

Auctioneers: Messrs. Hollingsworths
Westcombe House
56/58 Whitcomb Street
Leicester Square
London WC2H 7DR
Tel. 01-893 1875

Potential buyers are advised to refer to the official catalogue available direct from the auctioneers price 10p

Citizens' advice bureaux in Northumberland

George Grant (Morpeth) asked how many citizens' advice bureaux there were in the county of Northumberland; where they were located; which of them had full-time officers; and what was the amount of grant to each in 1977-78.

Mr Fraser said that there were three citizens' advice bureaux in Northumberland, none with full-time officers. The DPCP grants referred to in the table below were that part of the total government grant to the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux that the association had itself allocated to these three bureaux.

Location	Staff[1]	Hours of opening per week	Grants made 1977/78 (£) DPCP	Local authority
Blyth Valley	2	15	2050	1250
Tynedale	1	10	650	1800
Wansbeck	2	16	2000	2000
		total	4700	5050

[1] All part-time volunteers.

Trade arrangements with Malaysia

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked if he would list all the trading arrangements between the United Kingdom and Malaysia, indicating where appropriate, advantages enjoyed by Malaysia, in the United Kingdom and in the European Economic Community by virtue of commonwealth membership.

Mr Meacher said that there were arrangements covering air services and double taxation with Malaysia but no bilateral trade agreement with them. Trade in textiles between the United Kingdom and Malaysia was regulated by the EEC/Malaysia agreement negotiated under the framework of the Gatt multifibre arrangements. Commonwealth membership conferred no special benefits under any of these agreements.

UK representation on Eurocontrol

Geoffrey Finsberg (Camden, Hampstead) asked the Secretary of State for Trade at what level the United Kingdom was represented on Eurocontrol; when the last meeting was held; when a United Kingdom representative was last in the chair; what was the United Kingdom subscription in the year 1976-77; and in what publication the annual report of the work of the organisation was available.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the UK was represented on Eurocontrol's permanent commission by the parliamentary under-secretaries of state for companies, aviation and shipping and for defence (RAF); the last meeting of the permanent commission was held on 17 November 1977; a UK representative was last in the chair from 1 July 1973 to 30 June 1974; the UK's contribution to the operating and investment budgets in 1976-77 was £5,006,394. Reimbursements in the same year were £3,198,914; and the commission published an annual report.

Imports of fabric from Argentina

Ben Ford (Bradford North) asked the Secretary of State for Trade in view of the fact that imports of worsted and woollen fabrics from Argentina had increased from a total of approximately 28 000 m² in 1976 to a total of 552 000 m² in the first 10 months of 1977, if he would take measures to limit these imports which were causing redundancy in the British wool textile industry.

Mr Meacher replied that the new bilateral restraint agreement recently initialled by the EEC and Argentina provided for the introduction of restrictions on worsted and woollen fabrics when imports into the EEC or a member state in 1978 reached a level of 4 per cent of 1977 imports from third countries. Imports would therefore be very closely monitored. If the industry had any evidence that Argentine exports were being subsidised it should in the first instance contact its sponsoring division in the Department of Industry.

Imports of toilet tissue from Spain

John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what action he was taking to persuade the EEC commission to open an investigation of dumping in the United Kingdom of toilet tissue from Spain; what was the volume of imports of toilet tissue from Spain in each of the last 12 months for which figures were available; and what percentage penetration of the United Kingdom market this represented each month.

Mr Meacher said that in the view of the commission the apparent injury to the industry, particularly the low level of import penetration, was not sufficient to warrant a full investigation. The commission was being kept informed of the trend of imports with a view to demonstrating more significant injury.

Imports of toilet paper from Spain over the past 12 months were as follows:

Tonnes

1976					
Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
nil	nil	nil	nil	32.5	nil
1977					
June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov
6.3	nil	30.8	111.2	173.6	114.4

Information about penetration of the UK market was available quarterly only and for the most recent periods was as follows:

%

4th qtr 1976	1st qtr 1977	2nd qtr 1977	3rd qtr 1977
[1]	[1]	0.1	0.3

[1] represents nil or less than half the final digit shown.

Friday, 20 January

Ship-repairing firms in public ownership

Eric S. Heffer (Liverpool, Walton) asked how many ship-repairing firms had been taken into public ownership; if the Western Ship-repairers and other ship-repairing firms on Merseyside had applied to join the publicly owned British Shipbuilders; and what discussions he was having with the firms concerned.

Mr Huckfield said that almost two-thirds of the 12 ship-repairing companies which were excluded from the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977 were now owned by British Shipbuilders. No approach by any Merseyside ship-repair company about possible acquisition by British Shipbuilders had been made to his department or, he was advised, to the corporation.

Financial aid to private industry

William Molloy (Ealing North) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would publish details of financial aid afforded the private sector of British industry between 1970 and 1974, and 1974 and 1977.

Mr Williams said that the following table listed for the financial years 1970-71 to 1976-77, the main programmes from which assistance for the private sector had been provided, and for which his department or its predecessor had been responsible. Most of the information was not kept in the form requested, but the major part of the expenditures listed had been in support of the private sector.

Out-turn prices (net)

£ million

	1970-71[3]	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77[4]
Regional development grants	—	—	8.0	107.0	210.8	321.5	391.6
Land and buildings [1]	—	10.3	11.1	8.8	21.3	17.0	20.4
Regional selective assistance	—	—	0.4	25.1	35.9	49.2	23.8
Publicity [1]	—	—	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Local Employment Act [1]	50.2	49.2	40.0	29.6	1.7	−1.2	−7.8
Industrial research establishments	7.0	11.1	12.3	12.4	15.1	18.4	16.4
R & D contracts	6.1	6.4	6.5	9.9	13.7	16.1	19.4
National Research Development Corporation	4.2	1.7	−1.5	0.9	−0.9	—	−5.0
Technological and industrial sponsorship	4.1	1.6	3.6	3.7	3.9	7.3	6.8
Air R & D [2]	24.2	10.4	13.4	15.8	19.7	18.9	17.9
Concorde	64.5	78.0	76.5	75.8	82.2	80.9	48.8
RB 211	11.9	69.0	50.1	18.2	38.5	−1.2	9.8
Other air assistance	35.8	25.0	−3.0	33.5	26.4	92.9	−0.3
National space [2]	—	5.7	5.6	4.7	2.6	2.6	3.0
International space [2]	—	2.3	2.5	7.0	14.9	22.8	31.5
Selective financial assistance to individual firms etc	—	—	8.8	15.8	21.1	310.5	84.9
Refinancing of home shipbuilding lending	—	—	50.0	95.0	97.0	104.7	71.0
Shipbuilding assistance	0.5	7.1	17.3	24.5	54.4	29.7	14.2
Other support services	31.9	−27.6	−26.7	−22.3	1.1	−5.2	−3.6
Investment grants	579.0	460.9	328.7	224.7	114.6	68.5	25.6
National Enterprise Board	—	—	—	—	—	12.2	157.7
Other compensation (redundant steelworkers)	—	—	—	0.1	2.2	1.8	2.2
	819.4	711.1	603.7	690.3	776.4	1 167.6	928.5

[1] £50.2 million was the total net expenditure for these three programmes in 1970-71. [2] £24.2 million was the total net expenditure for these three programmes in 1970-71. [3] Because of departmental and presentational changes, the figures for 1970-71 are approximate in some cases. [4] Provisional.
All the above figures exclude the department's staff and administration costs.

Investment in manufacturing industry

Jim Craigen (Glasgow, Maryhill) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what had been the annual investment in manufacturing industry in the United Kingdom for each of the past five years for which figures were available; if he would express these figures as a percentage of gross national product; and what had been the total for both private and public sector investment.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	Capital expenditure by manufacturing industry £m 1970 prices	Capital expenditure as percentage of gross national product at 1970 market prices
1972	1739	3.2
1973	1753	3.0
1974	2028	3.5
1975	1745	3.1
1976	1659	2.9
Jan/Sept. 1977 seasonally adjusted	1306	3.1

Mr Meacher pointed out that no split between public and private sectors was available but some indication of trends in private sector investment was given by excluding investment by the iron and steel industry. Figures for this industry were published in *Trade and Industry* 6 January 1978.

PO staff superannuation fund

Timothy Smith (Ashfield) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what representations he had received about the failure of the Post Office to fulfil its responsibility under the Post Office Act 1969 to meet the actuarial deficiency on the Post Office superannuation fund.

Mr Huckfield pointed out that the Post Office had arrangements for liquidating the deficiency over a period of 20 years from 1 April 1972 by annual contributions to the staff superannuation fund as described in note VIII to the Post Office's report and accounts for 1976-177. These arrangements were fully consistent with the Post Office Act 1969, and were acceptable to the fund's trustees. A number of representations on the deficiency had been made as part of the general process of consultation on the *Report of the Post Office Review Committee* (Cmnd 6850).

Imports of yarn from Turkey

John Roper (Farnworth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was the present position on the import of yarn from Turkey as a result of the recent changes in international textile arrangements.

Mr Meacher replied that UK imports of cotton yarn from Turkey were covered by assurances which the EEC had secured from representatives of the Turkish industry about the level of their exports of a number of textile products to community markets. There would be limits both on exports to the community as a whole and to individual member states. The European commission was committed to ensuring that these limits were adhered to.

European community news

MTN, steel and trade proposals agreed by EEC ministers

Community steel producers should not lower their prices for products that are governed by the European commission's mandatory and guidance prices to match foreign competition. This principle was agreed by the EEC foreign affairs council in Brussels on 17 January.

In reply to a Commons question on 18 January, Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell, who represented the UK at this meeting said that this would only take effect where the community had negotiated bilateral agreements with the supplying countries on the price and tonnage of their exports to the community. The government would be keeping in close touch with the commission on the progress of these negotiations.

Mr Dell said the council had agreed to enter the substantive phase of the multilateral trade negotiations on the basis of a number of working hypotheses drawn up in the Gatt (see *Trade and Industry*, 13 January, page 86 and page 173 of this issue).

He said the British government welcomed the fact that these decisions of the council enabled the community to participate in the next phase of these Gatt negotiations and hoped that they will now be able to proceed to an early and positive conclusion.

The council approved, Mr Dell said, the mandate for negotiations for a new co-operation agreement with Yugoslavia. Negotiations with the Yugoslav government were expected to start soon. The council also requested the commission to pursue the negotiations with Cyprus in order to establish a mutually acceptable basis for a new agreement on trade in agricultural products and to report back to the council at its next meeting on 7 February.

David Owen, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, had explained the stage reached in the UK in enacting legislation for direct elections to the European assembly. The council would review the situation in member states again in March in preparation for a discussion at the European council in April, Mr Dell concluded.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Difficulties ahead, but progress being made on CFP – Silkin

Further progress was made at the special meeting of EEC fisheries ministers held in Brussels, from 16 to 18 January, towards a solution of the common fisheries policy, said John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, reporting to the House of Commons on 19 January.

He said that the commission had put forward proposals on quotas which the government could regard as a basis of discussion if sufficient progress could be made on the crucial issue of preferential access. 'There was considerable opposition to my demands on this question on the basis that they were contrary to the treaty of accession. Nevertheless the council is now willing to consider whether our demands can be met by means of fishing plans. That is an important advance and I believe also that not too much separates us from our partners on the important question of conservation measures.'

Mr Silkin had reiterated that the acceptability of any measures so far proposed would depend not only on the content of the proposals looked at by themselves but also on the nature of the final package when it could be seen as a whole. He said no agreement had been given to any part of the proposals so far examined. The position of the government was entirely reserved and its judgement of their acceptability had to depend first on what could be achieved on coastal preference – the most difficult single issue – and then on the balance between the different parts of any possible overall package.

Mr Silkin concluded that despite the difficulties which might well lie ahead he believed that progress was being made. There was now time for a pause for reflection and the council would then meet again in Brussels on 30 January to make a further effort towards reaching final agreement.

Commission proposes contraction in EEC shipbuilding industry

A contraction of 45 per cent in the EEC's shipbuilding capacity is one of the controversial major objectives put forward in a communication sent from the European commission to the council of ministers in December. This contraction coupled with a future target output of 2.4 million compensated gross tonnes would be designed to make the community industry more competitive without the need for state assistance.

To achieve these objectives the communication proposes that national aids to the industry be co-ordinated by means of the draft fourth directive at present before the council; restructuring, modernisation and job creation in the shipbuilding areas with the assistance of the European regional development and social funds and with loans from the European Investment Bank; and the creation of a special high-level committee on shipbuilding to monitor the development and implementation of the community's shipbuilding policy.

The communication also proposes concerted community action on maritime safety, marine pollution and seamen's welfare aimed at discouraging substandard ships. It includes unilateral action if necessary to encourage demand for new ships. These policies are already the subject of conventions of other organisations such as the International Maritime Consultative Organisation and the International Labour Organisation.

The reorganising proposals, the communication suggests, should be used as a basis for persuading other nations to do the same.

The commission is seeking a decision from the council during the first quarter of 1978.

European communities publish agreements

A 'Collection of the agreements concluded by the European Communities' is being issued jointly by the Council of the European Communities and the European commission. The first of the five basic volumes has just

been published and the other four will be coming out in the course of the year. Together they will cover all agreements in force at the end of 1975 (about 7000 pages). There will be annual updating supplements.

The collection contains both bilateral agreements with third countries and international organisations and multilateral agreements.

It also contains agreements to which any of the three communities (EEC, EAEC, ECSC) is a contracting party in its own right as well as certain agreements relating to such agreements.

Agreements relating to products covered by the European Coal and Steel Community treaty which have been concluded only by the member states of that community are also included in the collection.

The full texts of the agreements themselves and of the community instruments concluding them are given.

A table at the end of each section sets out the main points of each agreement. There will be a subject index covering all five volumes.

Annual supplements will follow the same pattern. Each will include a list of agreements that have expired or have been renewed in the preceding year.

This collection is published in six language versions. It can be ordered from the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, Boîte 1003, Luxembourg. The price of the five basic volumes is BF10,000 or the equivalent in other currencies.

EIB loans for water supply, steel and railway projects

Four loans totalling the equivalent of £38.9 million (59.5 million units of account) have been granted by the European Investment Bank for water supply, steel industry and railway projects in the United Kingdom. Details of these loans are: £19.8 million for 15 years at an interest rate of 8.6 per cent to the National Water Council. The funds will be passed on to the Northumbrian Water Authority as further support for the Kielder Water Scheme being carried out to increase fresh water supplies in north-east England. The bank has already lent £17.5 million for this scheme, which involves construction of a dam and reservoir with about 200 m^3 million storage capacity at Kielder on the North Tyne and a system of tunnels and pipelines which will be used to regulate the flow of the Tyne, Wear and Tees. Abstraction points along these rivers are the main sources of water supply in the region served by the authority. £11.9 million to the British Steel Corporation in two loans, each for a term of 12 years at an interest rate of 8.6 per cent. The larger of the loans, £8 million, will cover about half the cost of a third iron ore unloader at Redcar, part of the BSC South Teesside steelmaking complex, one of five major modern and fully integrated centres being developed by the corporation.

The second loan, £3.9 million, will again cover about half the cost of modernising Templetown Brickworks at Consett in Co Durham, BSC's only producer of carbonising silica bricks, used in coke ovens. These operations bring to almost £206 million the amount lent by the EIB for various modernisation and restructure schemes forming part of the corporation's development strategy. The present problems of the steel industry place a high premium on those installations which are the most modern and efficient; and £7.2 million to help finance service depots for British Rail's 125 mph high-speed trains which will be introduced during 1978/79 on the London-Aberdeen main line. The loan has been granted to the British Railways Board for a term of 15 years at an interest rate of 8.45 per cent.

British Aerospace wins further ESA solar array contract

British Aerospace, Dynamics Group at Bristol, has been awarded the first part of a £311,000 contract by the European Space Agency to develop a light-weight solar array that could be used for a direct broadcast television satellite in the mid-1980s.

The 20-month contract covers a comprehensive development programme for a hybrid array. This is an array with two solar panels, one of which supplies power during the transfer orbit of the satellite, and continues in geostationary orbit to supplement the power of the much larger deployable array.

Dynamics Group is responsible for the array's overall system design, manufacture and test; the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough is to provide technical assistance. AEG/Telefunken under contract to British Aerospace will be responsible for design of the solar blanket.

The Bristol factory has specialised in power supplies for space applications since the early 1970s having built solar arrays or structures for the global series of communication satellites Intelsat IV and IVA, the Comstar United States 'domestic' satellites and scientific satellites Aerial III, and IV, and UK6, the technology satellite Prospero X-3 and the cosmic ray satellite COS-B. In addition to development work on a flexible roll-up array, solar cell interconnections, hybrid array structures and mechanisms, British Aerospace has recently been awarded a £6 million contract by the European Space Agency to develop and build the solar array for the United States National Aeronautics and Space Agency's space telescope.

Transport conference will cover EEC legislation

A one-day conference organised by the Institute of Purchasing and Supply's specialist section for transportation and distribution to consider 'the Changing Scene in EEC and UK Legislation in Relation to Road Transport Management' will be held at the Eurocrest Hotel, Maidenhead on Thursday, 2 March 1978.

The chairman for the day will be R. W. Egglestone, assistant director of supplies, motor transport division, Greater London Council.

The conference will open with an address by F. D. S. Scott-Malden, of the Road Freight Division, Department of Transport on 'Professional Competence and the "O" Licence'. This will be followed by David Lowe, transport consultant of David Lowe and Associates who will discuss 'Providing the Administration to Meet Legal Needs' and will outline how responsibility for complying with legislation should be placed and monitored to avoid infringement of the law through omission, ignorance or negligence.

John Silbermann, national vice-chairman of the Road Haulage Association and director of Hallett, Silbermann will close the morning session with his views on 'How Can the Small Haulier Stay in Business'.

In the afternoon, T. R. V. Bolland, director of technical services and market development of the National Freight Corporation looks at 'The Effects on the Buyer of the Changing Scene'. At the close of the conference there will be an open forum to give delegates the opportunity to discuss problems and raise questions not covered during the day.

Further information can be obtained from Mrs C. V. Hewgill, Assistant Secretary, Conference and Specialist Sections, Institute of Purchasing and Supply, York House, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7UT, tel. 01-928 1851.

Electrical equipment export conference

A conference of major importance to electrical equipment manufacturers is being held at the Metropole Hotel, Birmingham on 16 March by Technical Help to Exporters (THE), the export advisory service of the British Standards Institution. The conference will deal with electrical equipment for use in explosive areas such as offshore oil rigs, gas works and other hazardous locations associated with the oil and petrochemical industries.

The conference is particularly important in the light of impending developments from Cenelec and the EEC commission following the recent publication of the European Standards EN 50 014 to EN 50 020 and the coming into force of the first EEC directives in this field in March 1978. The THE conference will therefore provide manufacturers with an opportunity to hear about the up-to-date situation in other countries and to discuss changes which are likely to take place.

The speakers have been selected from organisations whose activities can influence the acceptability of exported equipment and their views will be of particular interest as each country, with the exception of the United States, is trying to bring its requirements in line with the others.

The conference is timed to coincide with the ASEE exhibition Electrex 78 at the National Exhibition Centre. Reservations can be made by contacting the Promotion Services Department, British Standards Institution, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents deposited in the House of Commons during the 14 days to 19 January 1978 (commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses):

EEC draft instruments

R/3247/77 No commission number
Proposal for a Council Regulation adjusting the remuneration and pensions of officials and other servants of the European Communities and the weightings applied thereto.
S/2066/77 (COM(77)677 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) concerning the arrangements applicable to trade in the agricultural sector between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Cyprus.
R/3356/77 (COM(77)666 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Directive (EEC) on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods by road as part of regional statistics.
R/3371/77 (COM(77)703 FINAL)
Proposals for Council Regulations (EEC): amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2727/75 on the common organisation of the market in cereals; amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1418/76 on the common organisation of the market in rice; amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2742/75 on production refunds in the cereals and rice sectors.
R/3368/77 (COM(77)712 FINAL)
Relations with the ACP States and the OCT – Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 706/76 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States or in the overseas countries and territories.
R/3373/77 (COM(77)734 FINAL)
Amendment to the proposal for a Council Directive amending for the sixth time the Directive of 23 October 1962 on the approximation of the rules of the Member States concerning the colouring matters authorised for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption.
R/3375/77 (COM(77)732 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation on determining the origin of textile products falling within Chapter 51 or Chapters 53 to 62 of the Common Customs Tariff; Proposal for a Council Regulation on proof of origin for textile products falling within Chapter 51 or Chapters 53 to 62 of the Common Customs Tariff and imported into the Community, and on the conditions for the acceptance of such proof.
R/3376/77 (COM(77)671 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Decision authorising prolongation or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between Member States and third countries.
R/3377/77 No commission number
Proposal for a Council Decision (COM(77)248 FINAL) amending the Council Decision of 22 July 1975 adopting common research programmes and programmes for the co-ordination of research in the fields of animal leucoses, livestock effluents, beef production and plant protein production (75/460/EEC).
R/6/78 (COM(77)708 FINAL)
Alteration of the proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the granting of financial support for projects to exploit alternative energy sources.
R/7/78 (COM(77)733 FINAL)
Relations with the ACP States – Proposal for a Council Regulation on the extension of the interim provisions relating to trade between the EEC and Papua New Guinea, the Democratic Republic of Sao Tomé and Principe and the Republic of Cape Verde.
R/17/78 No commission number
Proposal for a Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to articles of precious metals.
R/19/78 (COM(77)709 FINAL)
Proposal for Council Directive amending Directive 76/135/EEC on reciprocal recognition of navigability licences for inland waterway vessels.
R/20/78 (COM(77)663 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Directive amending Council Directive 68/414/EEC of 20 December 1968 imposing an obligation on Member States of the European Economic Community to maintain minimum stocks of crude oil and/or petroleum products.
R/24/78 (COM(77)705 FINAL)
Alteration of proposals for Council Decisions: on a research programme on forecasting and assessment in the field of science and technology; adopting a multi-annual research and development programme in the field of primary raw materials (indirect action) (1978-81) for the European Economic Community.
R/31/78 (COM(77)722 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Decision prolonging Decision 76/402/EEC on the level of the interest rate subsidy, provided for by Directive 72/159/EEC on the modernisation of farms, to be applied in Italy.
R/27/78 (COM(77)725 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 804/68 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products; Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down general rules for milk producers' organisations; Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) relating to the Northern Ireland Milk Marketing Board.
R/30/78 (COM(77)707 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation concerning the adaptation of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1408/71 of 14 June 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community, with a view to applying it to self-employed persons and their families; Proposal for Council Regulations concerning the adaptation of the Annexes to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1408/71 of 14 June 1971 on the application of social security schemes to employed persons and their families moving within the Community, with a view to applying it to self-employed persons and their families.
R/42/78 (COM(77)716 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) relating to the organisation of a survey of earnings in industry, wholesale and retail distribution, banking and insurance.
R/43/78 (COM(77)723 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down general rules for the financing of certain intervention by the EAGGF Guarantee Section.
S/12/78 (COM(77)682 FINAL)
Recommendation for a Council Decision accepting on behalf of the Communities three Annexes to the International Convention on the simplification and harmonisation of customs procedures.
S/20/78 (COM(77)738 FINAL)
Proposals for Council Regulations (EEC) establishing indicative ceilings and Community supervision for imports of certain products originating in Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland (1978); Draft Decisions of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, establishing supervision of imports of certain products originating in Austria and Sweden (1978).
S/2061/77 (COM(77)683 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the application of a Joint Committee EEC Decision adding and modifying Protocol No. 3 concerning the definition of the concept of originating products and methods of administrative co-operation and replacing certain Decisions of the said Joint Committee.
S/2106/77 (COM(77)689 FINAL)
Recommendations for Council Regulations approving Agreements extending the Interim Agreements between the EEC and Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia respectively.
S/2148/77 (COM(77)739 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources applicable to vessels flying the flag of Norway.
S/15/78 (COM(77)681 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within subheading ex 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Morocco (1968-1979).
S/16/78 (COM(77)692 FINAL)
Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 483/77 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain wines having a registered designation of origin, falling within subheading ex 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Morocco (1977-78); Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1391/77 opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain wines, having a registered designation of origin, falling within subheading ex 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Algeria (1977-78).

Consultative documents

R/3216/77 (COM(77)542 FINAL)
Commission communication to the Council concerning the reorganisation of the Community shipbuilding industry.
R/2673/77
Food Aid to India.
R/3147/77
Community Budget (Section III – Commission).
R/3005/77
Sixth Report on the Agricultural Fund.
R/3098/77
Community Budget (Section III – Commission).
R/3229/77
Agricultural Exchange Rate for the French Franc.
R/3308/77 (COM 77) 1458)
Request for assent to a draft Commission Decision prohibiting matching of offers of iron and steel products from certain third countries.
R/3295/77 (COM(77)639 FINAL)
Commission communication on the financial consequences of the agricultural price proposals and related measures for 1978-79.
R/2856/77 No commission number.
Financing decisions taken under the EDF
R/2794/77 No commission number.
Financing decisions taken under the EDF.
R/2729/77 No commission number.
Financing decisions taken under the EDF.
R/2982/77 No commission number.
Community action in the cultural sector.

The above documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7174/482/408.

Common Agricultural Policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 30/78 derogating from regulation (EEC) 2051/76 as regards the dates laid down for deliveries in connection with obligatory distillation for the 1976/77 wine-growing year (*Official Journal* L5, 7 January 1978).

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 59/78 amending regulation (EEC) 1613/71 laying down detailed rules for fixing cif prices and levies on rice and broken rice and the corrective amounts relating thereto (*Official Journal* L10, 13 January 1978).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 60/78 amending article 1(2) of regulation (EEC) 2219/77 making special provision for the application of accession compensatory amounts on certain milk products in trade with the United Kingdom (*Official Journal* L10, 13 January 1978).

Commercial policy

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L338, 28 December 1977, contains the texts of the following regulations:

Regulation (EEC) 2896/77 extending to other products the annexe to regulation (EEC) 109/70 establishing common rules for imports from state-trading countries.

Regulation (EEC) 2897/77 adding new products to column 2 of the list contained in annex I to regulation (EEC) 1439/74 on common rules for imports.

Regulation (EEC) 2898/77 maintaining in force until 31 December 1978 the rules introduced by regulation (EEC) 1887/76 whereby imports into Italy of electric filament lamps originating in certain European state-trading countries are subject to import authorisations.

ACP/EEC convention of Lomé

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L355, 31 December 1977, contains the texts of the following regulations:

Regulation (EEC) 3013/77 amending regulation (EEC) 706/76 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products, originating in the

African, Caribbean and Pacific States or in the overseas countries and territories.

Regulation (EEC) 3015/77 on the application of decision 12/77 of the ACP-EEC council of ministers derogating from the concept of 'originating products' to take account of the special situation of Mauritius with regard to its production of canned tuna.

Banking

Trade and Industry, 6 January 1978 (page 18), contained an article on the directive adopted by the EEC council of ministers on 12 December 1977, concerning 'the co-ordination of laws, regulations, and administrative provisions relating to the taking up and pursuit of the business of credit institutions'. The text of this directive, 77/780/EEC, has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L322, dated 17 December 1977. Copies of the *Official Journal* are available from HMSO, price 70p plus postage.

Temporary suspension of the CCT: other member states' requests

Details of requests for new suspensions of the CCT (common customs tariff) to operate from 1 July 1978 were announced in *Trade and Industry* of 6 and 13 January. The EEC commission has now informed the department of two further requests, in respect of the products listed below. Total suspension is sought in each instance.

CCT heading	Description
29.15 CIII	Benzyl 3-isobutyryloxy-1-isopropyl-2,2-dimethylpropyl phthalate
29.26 AII	3,4,5,6-tetrahydrophthalimidomethyl 2,2-dimethyl-3-(2-methylpropenyl)cyclopropanecarboxylate

The department will wish to take account of United Kingdom interests in making its views known to the EEC before decisions are taken whether to grant these proposed suspensions. UK producers of the goods in question or of like or competing products are entitled to object where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the community and that their interests would be adversely affected by suspension or reduction of the CCT. Producers wishing to object to the granting of these suspensions should provide as much as possible of the following information:

1 estimated community (nine countries including the UK) demand in 1978 and 1979;
2 estimated UK demand in 1978 and 1979;
3 UK production expected to be available in 1978 and 1979 for:
  3.1 the UK market in 1978 and 1979;
  3.2 the rest of the community in 1978 and 1979;
  3.3 exports to other countries in the same years.

This information should be sent in writing to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, to arrive not later than 6 February 1978.

Inquiries: 01-215 3576.

Social fund: changes implemented

On 20 December 1977, EEC ministers adopted a series of decisions and regulations implementing the modifications to the European social fund resulting from the recent review of the operations of the fund. This article from John Cullinane, Department of Employment outlines the changes.

The European social fund assists in financing schemes to train, retrain, and resettle workers to increase their geographical and occupational mobility within the EEC.

It operates under two budgets: the 'Article 5 budget', to assist operations undertaken as part of member states' employment policies; and the 'Article 4 budget', to assist operations benefiting particular categories of people who are the subject of specific decisions of the council of ministers.

Budget changes

The changes introduced fall into one of three main categories. First, there have been a number of changes designed to increase the concentration of the fund's resources in the regions of greatest need. Fifty per cent of the entire budget in each year is to be reserved for article 5 operations undertaken in regions that are underdeveloped or are suffering from industrial decline (in the UK, these are the assisted areas), and the provision that at least 60 per cent of the article 5 budget should be devoted to operations designed to reduce structural unemployment in those regions has been retained.

The amount of assistance given under present regulations (50 per cent of eligible expenditure undertaken by public authorities and a grant matching that given by a public authority towards the cost of a project carried out by a private organisation) is to be increased by 10 per cent in the case of operations undertaken in certain regions of especially serious unemployment (such as Northern Ireland).

Regulations simplified

Secondly, the regulations have been simplified. The list of types of expenditure eligible for fund assistance has been simplified; the present complex provisions where training for self-employment can be assisted in certain cases has been replaced by a clause indicating that training for employment and for self-employment are to be considered on an equal basis (except that assistance for training for the liberal professions will continue to be ruled out), and new provision has been made for giving assistance to projects on the basis of unit costs (per trainee and per unit of time). These costs will be determined by the European commission in consultation with each member state.

Efficient operations

Third, there have been changes intended to make the fund more efficient. The guidelines adopted by the commission (whereby different degrees of priority are assigned to projects for which applications for assistance are submitted, in order to use the limited budget to best effect) are to be published by May of each year. These guidelines will have effect for the current year and the two subsequent years, although modifications may be introduced each year in the light of changing circumstances. Applications for projects to be undertaken in 1980 and thereafter are to be submitted at least in outline by 21 October of the preceding year, to enable the commission to make a decision on which projects are to be assisted before the operations are due to start. There are to be advance payments of assistance while the project is in progress.

Article 4 assistance

In addition, there have been changes to the specific decisions under the article 4 budget. Article 4 assistance for schemes to rehabilitate and train the disabled for open employment has been discontinued; in future all such assistance will be concentrated under article 5. There is a new, although rather limited, provision under article 4 for schemes to train certain women over 25 and to familiarise them with the conditions of working life. The present article 4 provisions for schemes to train young people, migrant workers, textile and clothing workers, and former agricultural workers, are to be continued at least until 1981.

Further information

The review of the social fund regulations has not rendered them any easier to comprehend, and it is still as difficult as ever, given the limited budget, to be confident than an application for assistance will succeed. The Department of Employment on 01-214 6242 is willing to advise potential applicants.

MFA renegotiation: new bilateral agreements

The EEC council of ministers gave its approval on 20 December 1977 to new bilateral restraint arrangements negotiated with low-cost supplying countries. The council also agreed to the renewal of the Gatt multifibre arrangement – the MFA – for a further four years from 1 January 1978. These new arrangements should provide the UK textile and clothing industries with a greater degree of protection against disruptive low-cost imports than has been possible in the past. This article describes the negotiations and the main features of the new agreements.

The background to the negotiations and the EEC objectives were set out in an article in *Trade and Industry* on 4 November 1977. The main objective was to deal with the problem of cumulative disruption by first securing a more comprehensive, and hence more effective, range of quotas with more realistic base levels and lower annual growth rates; and secondly by restricting all low-cost imports of the most sensitive products within global limits.

Bilateral negotiations

The EEC began an intensive programme of negotiations in late October with over 30 low-cost suppliers. These negotiations were completed by the beginning of December and, following an assessment of the results by the member states, were approved by the council of ministers on 20 December.

As expected the negotiations were extremely tough but despite the difficulties and complexity the EEC was able to secure its main objectives. In particular, there will from now on be global limits for the eight most sensitive products (cotton yarn and fabrics, spun synthetic fabrics, knitted shirts and T-shirts, jerseys and pullovers, trousers, woven shirts and blouses). In all but two cases these limits are within the EEC's negotiating mandate. In the case of cotton yarn and cloth, however, it was necessary to increase the level in order to reach agreement with four countries (India, Pakistan, Brazil and Egypt). The excess for the UK amounted to about 5½ per cent above 1976 trade for cotton yarn and about 2 per cent for cotton cloth.

In all 33 supplying countries were involved (including Taiwan which is subject to autonomous restrictions by the EEC). Twenty-one countries have now initialled bilateral agreements with the EEC; a further two countries have not yet initialled agreements although negotiations have been concluded; three negotiations have not yet been concluded; and special arrangements have been reached with six Mediterranean suppliers. A full list is shown at the end of this article.

New bilateral agreements

The new agreements, which will in general last for five years, will take a standard form. They will set out quota coverage, quota levels and growth rates; licensing and control procedures; flexibility allowed in the operation of quotas; and consultation provisions. They will also contain a new provision for introducing new quotas on products not subject to immediate restraint if imports rise above a certain level.

The most important features of the new agreements are:

- Global limits for the eight most sensitive products, which account for 60 per cent of UK low-cost imports. These should have the effect of maintaining import penetration at about its present level.
- More comprehensive quota coverage for other products. Details were set out in notice to importers 1649, published in *Trade and Industry* on 6 January. Quota coverage overall is about 90 per cent compared with 70 to 80 per cent under the previous bilateral agreements.
- Growth rates which in general vary according to the level of import penetration, ie the higher the import penetration the lower the growth rate. For sensitive products growth will be lower than the MFA minimum of 6 per cent.
- Quotas based in general on 1976 trade levels and not on previous quota levels which in many cases were under-used.
- Automatic safeguards to introduce new quotas if required when imports of unrestrained products reach specified levels.
- One hundred and twenty new separate product categories (compared with about 60 in the past) which will be common to all agreements. This should make quota evasion more difficult. Details of the new categories were given in notice to importers 1644, published in *Trade and Industry* on 25 November 1977.
- Less scope for transfer of quantities between quotas and between quota years. In particular, no carryover of unused 1977 quotas into 1978.
- Strict monitoring of agreements to be introduced on common basis for all member states.

Poland and Hungary

Until new bilateral agreements are signed, quotas under the rules for state-trading countries will continue to apply to Poland and Hungary as they did in 1977. Details of all state trading quotas were set out in notice to importers 1654, published in *Trade and Industry* on 20 January.

Bangladesh, Haiti and Iran

Imports from these countries will remain subject to surveillance licensing. This will continue if and when new agreements are signed because these agreements do not provide for any immediate quotas; the automatic safeguard provisions already described would however apply to all products.

Arrangements with Mediterranean suppliers

Four countries have agreed to voluntary restraint on their exports of certain products to the community in 1978. These are Greece, Turkey, Morocco and Tunisia. Imports from these countries will be subject to surveillance licensing. Where group I products are concerned, these countries have agreed to respect the global ceilings for individual member states as well as for the community as a whole. The commission has made it clear that if the levels specified for any member state are in danger of being exceeded, it will intervene immediately with the country concerned to check further exports. Spain and Portugal have not so far been prepared to agree to voluntary restraint. They have therefore been notified of levels for certain products which should be adhered to and warned of immediate safeguard action should these levels be exceeded. In the meantime, imports from Spain and Portugal will also be subject to surveillance licensing. These arrangements will apply initially for one year, but the commission has made it clear that the EEC expects restraints of this kind to operate for the next five years.

Transitional arrangements

In order to allow supplying countries to adapt to the new product categories and more extensive quota coverage, most of the new quotas are being administered by the member states for an initial period of three months. During this period import licences will be issued up to 40 per cent of the annual quota levels and amounts licensed in this way, provided they were shipped after 1 January 1978, will be counted against the 1978 quota levels. Three countries (Hong Kong, India and Thailand) have however decided to export administer their quotas immediately and for these countries import licences will be issued against authorised export certificates in the normal way. These arrangements were set out in full in notice to importers 1649.

Final details of UK quotas for 1978 are expected shortly. These will be the subject of a further notice to importers.

Bilateral agreements: the state of play

Initialled
India; South Korea; Argentina; Romania; Singapore; Brazil; Colombia; Sri Lanka; Pakistan; Malaysia; Mexico; Macao; Guatemala; Uruguay; Hong Kong; Peru; Thailand; Indonesia; Yugoslavia; Philippines; Egypt.

Concluded but not yet initialled
Hungary; Poland.

Not yet concluded
Bangladesh; Haiti; Iran.

Arrangements with Mediterraneans
Greece, Turkey, Morocco, Tunisia, agreements to voluntary restraint;
Spain, Portugal, EEC sides memoire issued giving levels not to be exceeded and threat of safeguard action if necessary.

Autonomous EEC measures
Taiwan.

Official publications on community matters

The following selected publications, issued during the period 16 September to 30 December 1977, can be ordered from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, quoting the standard book number in parentheses after each title. The prices quoted do not include postage. A further list will be published next week.

Parliament

Command papers

6920: European Communities No. 22 (1977). Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco and Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Kingdom of Morocco. (With Final Act.) Rabat, 27 April 1976. [The Agreements are not in force.] 140 pp. (0 10 169200 5.) £2.10.

6935: European Communities No. 24 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters relating to Article 4(3) of the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic and to Article 4(3) of the Additional Protocol. Brussels, 31 March 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 169350 8.) 15p.

6936: European Communities No. 25 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters relating to Article 3 of the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic and to Article 3 of the Additional Protocol. Brussels, 31 March 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 169380 5.) 15p.

6937: European Communities No. 26 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters relating to Article 3 of Protocol No. 8 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic. Brussels, 6 April 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 169370 2.) 15p.

6938: European Communities No. 23 (1977). Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria (with Final Act). Algiers, 26 April 1976. [The Agreements are not in force.] 138 pp. (0 10 169380 X.) £2.10.

6940: European Communities No. 27 (1977). Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Arab Republic of Egypt and Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Arab Republic of Egypt (with Final Act). Brussels, 18 January 1977. [The Agreements are not in force.] 116 pp. (0 10 169400 8.) £1.85.

6948: The Law Commission (Law Com. No. 84). Law of Contract Report on the proposed EEC Directive on the law relating to Commercial Agents. Advice to the Lord Chancellor under Section 3(1)(E) of the Law Commission Act 1965. 84 pp. (0 10 169480 6.) £1.35.

6953: European Communities No. 29 (1977). Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Tunisia (with Final Act) and Exchanges of Letters concerning the importation into the Community of Commodities originating in Tunisia. Tunis, 25 April 1976. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 July 1976.] 112 pp. (0 10 169530 6.) £1.60.

6955: European Communities No. 30 (1977). Agreement on the Republic of Cape Verde to the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé (with Final Act and Exchange of Letters). Brussels, 28 March 1977. [The Agreement has not been ratified by the United Kingdom.] 8 pp. (0 10 169550 0.) 25p.

6957: European Communities No. 31 (1977). Agreement on the Accession of Papua New Guinea to the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé (with Final Act and Exchange of Letters). Brussels, 28 March 1977. [The Agreement has not been ratified by the United Kingdom.] 8 pp. (0 10 169570 5.) 25p.

6958: European Communities No. 32 (1977). Agreement on the Accession of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principle to the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé (with Final Act and Exchange of Letters). Brussels, 28 March 1977. [The Agreement has not been ratified by the United Kingdom.] 8 pp. (0 10 169580 2.) 25p.

6959: European Communities No. 33 (1977). Co-operation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Syrian Arab Republic and Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Syrian Arab Republic (with Final Act). Brussels, 18 January 1977. [The Agreements are not in force.] 110 pp. (0 10 169590 X.) £1.60.

6968: European Communities No. 37 (1977). Co-operative Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Agreement between the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (with Final Act). Brussels, 18 January 1977. [The Agreements are not in force.] 110 pp. (0 10 169680 9.) £1.60.

6979: European Communities No. 40 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar for 1977/78. Brussels, 6 July 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.) 4 pp. (0 10 169790 2.) 15p.

6980: European Communities No. 28 (1977). Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco (With Final Act) and Exchanges of Letters concerning the importation into the Community of Commodities originating in Morocco. Rabat, 27 April 1976. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 July 1976.] 120 pp. (0 10 169300 3.) £1.85.

6981: European Communities No. 34 (1977). Financial Protocol between the European Economic Community and Turkey. Brussels, 12 May 1977. [The Protocol has not been ratified by the United Kingdom.] 8 pp. (0 10 169810 0.) 25p.

6983: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 91 (1977). Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, extending the period of validity of Decision 75/373/ECSC opening tariff preferences for products covered by that community and originating in Israel. Brussels, 18 January 1977. 2 pp. (0 10 169830 5.) 10p.

6994: European Communities No. 39 (1977). Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria (with Final Act) and Exchanges of Letters concerning the Importation into the Community of Commodities originating in Algeria. Algiers, 26 April 1976. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 July 1976.] 116 pp. (0 10 169940 9.) £1.85.

7001: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 98 (1977). Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, opening tariff preferences for products covered by that Community and originating in Tunisia. Luxembourg, 29 June 1976. 4 pp. (0 10 170010 5.) 15p.

7002: European Communities No. 36 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters relating to Article 19 of the Co-operation Agreement and Article 12 of the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Tunisia and concerning the import into the Community of Fruit Salads originating in Tunisia. Brussels, 28 January 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 170020 2.) 15p.

7007: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 103 (1977). Treaty amending certain Financial Provisions of the Treaties establishing the European Communities and of the Treaty establishing a Single Council and a Single Commission of the European Communities. Brussels, 22 July 1975. [The United Kingdom instrument of ratification was deposited on 29 March 1976 and the Treaty entered into force on 1 June 1977.] The Treaty was previously published as European Communities No. 138 (1975). Cmnd. 6252. 28 pp. (0 10 170070 9.) 50p.

7012: European Communitie No. 41 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendment of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Austria on the Application of the Rules on Community Transit. Brussels, 29 June 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 8 pp. (0 10 170120 9.) 25p.

7013: European Communities No. 42 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters on the amendment of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation on the Application of the Rules on Community Transit. Brussels, 29 June 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 8 pp. (0 10 170130 6.) 25p.

7014: European Communities No. 43 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and Barbados on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar. Brussels, 6 July 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 170140 3.) 15p.

7018: European Communities No. 38 (1977). Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the United States of America concerning Fisheries off the coasts of the United States. Washington, 15 February 1977. [Agreement was made under Article 43 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 9 June 1977.] 12 pp. (0 10 170180 2.) 25p.

7021: European Communities No. 46 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and Barbados, the People's Republic of the Congo, Fiji, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, the Republic of Kenya, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, the Republic of Malawi, Mauritius, the Republic of Surinam, the Kingdom of Swaziland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago and the Republic of Uganda concerning the agreed quantities of Cane Sugar for certain ACP States. Brussels, 29 June 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 170210 8.) 15p.

7023: European Communities No. 44 (1977). Agreement between the European Economic Community, the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Austria on the Extension of the Application of the Rules on Community Transit. Brussels, 12 July 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 170230 2.) 15p.

7025: European Communities No. 48 (1977). Additional Protocol to The Agreement between the European Economic Community and the State of Israel with Protocol relating to Financial Co-operation and Final Act. Brussels, 8 February 1977. [The Protocols have not been ratified by the United Kingdom.] 16 pp. (0 10 170250 7.) 35p.

7030: European Communities No. 47 (1977). Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Arab Republic of Egypt (with Final Act and Exchanges of Letters). Brussels, 18 January 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 July 1977.] 106 pp. (0 10 170300 7.) £1.50.

7039: European Communities No. 50 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters relating to Article 20 of the Co-operation Agreement and Article 13 of the Interim Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco and concerning the Import into the Community of Fruit Salads originating in Morocco. Brussels, 28 January 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.] 4 pp. (0 10 170390 2.) 15p.

7044: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 108 (1977). Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, extending the period of validity of Decision 76/566/ECSC opening tariff preferences for products covered by that Community and originating in Morocco. Luxembourg, 28 June 1977. 2 pp. (0 10 170440 2.) 10p.

7045: European Communities. Treaty Series No. 109 (1977). Decision of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States of the European Coal and Steel Community, meeting within the Council, opening tariff preferences for products covered by that Community and originating in Israel. Luxembourg, 28 June 1977. 4 pp. (0 10 170450 X.) 10p.

7046: European Communities No. 49 (1977). Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco concerning certain Wine originating in Morocco and entitled to a Designation of Origin. Brussels, 12 March 1977. [The Agreement was made under Article 113 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and entered into force on 1 April 1977.] 4 pp. (0 10 170480 7.) 15p.

EEC information

The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership.
The unit's address is:
EEC Information Unit,
Department of Industry,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.
Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Guide

1 Department of Industry
2 Department of Trade
3 Department of Prices and Consumer Protection
Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection:
4 Common Services

January 1978

1 Department of Industry

The department is responsible for general industrial policy, and for the industrial component of regional policy, including financial assistance to industry under the Industry Act (except that certain regional industrial policy functions in Scotland and Wales are now exercised by the Scottish and Welsh Offices). It sponsors individual manufacturing industries, including iron and steel; it is responsible for four nationalised industries, British Aerospace, British Shipbuilders, the British Steel Corporation and the Post Office. The department is responsible for technical services to industry, and for industrial research and development, including civil aerospace research and the supervision of the industrial research establishments of the former Department of Trade and Industry. The Design Council and the National Research Development Corporation also come within its sphere.

Secretary of State for Industry
Eric Varley

Has overall responsibility for the work of the department and directs personally industrial strategy, and pay and prices policy so far as it affects the department.

Minister of State
Alan Williams

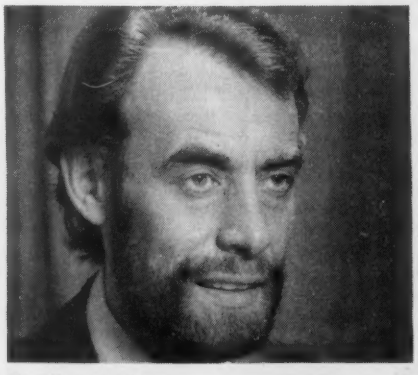
Deals with the following private sector industries (except for subsidiaries of the National Enterprise Board): chemicals and textiles; minerals, metals, electrical engineering and process plant; mechanical engineering; vehicles; computers and electronics; paper, timber and other manufacturing; planning agreements and industrial democracy in these industries; assistance under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972; regional policy; and devolution.

Minister of State
Gerald Kaufman

Deals with aerospace, the Post Office, shipbuilding and shiprepairing, and steel; planning agreements and industrial democracy in these industries; the National Enterprise Board and its subsidiaries including planning agreements and research and development.

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
Bob Cryer

Supports Mr Williams. In addition has special responsibility for small firms and waste recycling.



Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
Leslie Huckfield

Supports Mr Kaufman. In addition has special responsibility for statistics and the work of the Design Council.

Department of Industry

1

Headquarters organisation

Permanent Secretary: Sir Peter Carey

Head of the Government Accountancy Service and Accountancy Adviser to the Department of Industry K. J. Sharp[1]

The chart below is not intended to show the relative status of the posts.

Deputy Secretary	Division or Department		Head of Division
Miss A. E. Mueller[2]	Regional Industrial Development	RID	L. Lightman
	Regional Industrial Finance	RIF	K. G. H. Binning
	Regional Development Grants	RDG	D. G. C. Lawrence
	Small Firms	SF	D. G. C. Lawrence
R. H. Bonham Carter Director	Industrial Development Unit	IDU	J. D. Andrewes
		Deputy Directors	R. Hawkes J. Addison-Smith D. McCarthy
R. H. W. Bullock	Electrical Engineering, Process Plant and Industrial Technologies	EPT	D. C. Clark
	Vehicle	V	W. R. G. Bell
	Machine Tools and Mechanical Engineering	M	W. Plowden
	Computers, Systems and Electronics	CSE	M. P. Lam
	Co-ordination of sponsorship of private sector industries	—	D. C. Clark
Dr D. S. Davies Chief Scientist	Research and Technology Requirements and Space	RTS	B. W. Oakley
	Research and Technology Requirements and Perspective	RTP	Dr J. A. Catterall
	Research Establishment Management	REM	Dr A. J. Robinson
	Industrial research establishments:		*Director:*
	Computer Aided Design Centre		J. W. Nichols
	National Engineering Laboratory		D. H. Mallinson
	National Maritime Institute		J. W. Nichols
	National Physical Laboratory (including British Calibration Service)		Dr P. Dean
	Warren Spring Laboratory		Dr A. J. Robinson
	Laboratory of the Government Chemist		*Government Chemist:* Dr H. Egan
R. E. Dearing	Air	Air	A. Warrington
	Concorde and Nationalisation Compensation	CNC	J. H. McEnery
	Shipbuilding Policy	SBP	C. J. Farrow
	Posts and Telecommunications	PT	R. Williams
P. W. Ridley	Chemicals and Textiles	CT	P. G. Hudson
	Iron and Steel	IS	S. J. Gross
	Paper, Timber, Minerals, Metals and Misc. Manufactures	PTM	D. G. C. Lawrence
A. J. Lippitt	Industrial and Commercial Policy	IC	E. J. D. Warne
	Industrial Planning	IP	M. S. Morris
	Responsibility for Industrial Strategy Team; co-ordination of schemes under section 8 of Industry Act 1972		
	Information[3]	Inf	R. J. J. Tuite
	Parliamentary Branch	PB	J. T. Costin

Industrial Adviser: P. Turner

Divisions providing a common service to the Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection are shown on page 14.

[1] Mr Knox of ASD (Common Services, page 14) reports to Mr Sharp. [2] The regional directors and the industrial directors in the assisted areas also report to Miss Mueller. [3] Reports direct to Sir Peter Carey.

London addresses

Code	Address	Telephone	Telex
V	1 VICTORIA STREET, SW1H 0ET	01-215 7877	8811074/5
AB	Abell House, John Islip Street, SW1P 4LN	01-211 3000	
ASH	Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, SW1E 6RB	01-212 7676	
CS	Chapter Street House, 26 Chapter Street, SW1P 4NS	01-834 7032	
DB	Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, SW1P 2AG	01-212 7676	
HH	Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, EC4M 7HU	01-248 5757	
K	Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, SW1E 6SJ	01-215 7877	8811074/5
MH	Monsanto House, 10-18 Victoria Street, SW1H 0NQ	01-215 7877	8811074/5
MT	Millbank Tower, Millbank, SW1P 4QU	01-211 3000	918829
WB	Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, SE1 8UA	01-275 3000	261969

Regional offices are given on page 6. Each divisional entry overleaf includes an address code to indicate its location.

1

Department of Industry

Address Code page 3

1
Regional Industrial Development. Industrial aspects of regional development. Designation of assisted areas. Regional policy in relation to the EEC. Industrial development certificates. Promotion of assisted areas. Liaison with departmental regional offices and with related divisions of the Scottish Office, Welsh Office and Department of Commerce, Northern Ireland. MT

2
Regional Industrial Finance. Responsibility for regional selective assistance under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 and for financial assistance under the Local Employment Act 1972 (excluding sections 7-9 incl.). Building and leasing of factories through the English Industrial Estates Corporation. Invest in Britain Bureau. MT

3
Regional Development Grants. Administration of regional development grants under the Industry Act 1972, and residual work on investment grants under the Industrial Development Act 1966. MT

4
Small Firms. The focal point within government where the needs of small firms can be seen as a whole. Matters arising from the Bolton Committee Report. Policy on and central management of Small Firms Information Centres. Industrial co-ownership. AB

5
Industrial Development Unit. Assessment of the needs of industrial development and their resolution; national financial assistance under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972; appraisal of major applications for selective financial assistance. MT

6
Chemicals and Textiles. Sponsorship of textiles, man-made fibres, clothing, leather, footwear, tobacco, chemicals, rubber, plastics, fertilisers, toiletries and sundry related industries. ASH

7
Computers, Systems and Electronics. Sponsorship of the electronics industry (telecommunications, automation, scientific instruments for industrial process control but not numerically controlled machines) and the computer and computer peripheral industries, including software. DB

8
Machine Tools and Mechanical Engineering. Sponsorship of the metal and woodworking machine-tool, welding, manufacturing and mining machinery, and other mechanical engineering products industries. AB

9
Vehicle. Sponsorship of the motor vehicle, motor vehicle component, engine, motor and pedal cycle, tractor and agricultural equipment, caravan and trailer industries, together with the associated distribution and repair industries, petrol retailing and car hire. AB

10
Electrical Engineering, Process Plant and Industrial Technologies. Sponsorship of electrical engineering and process plant engineering and contracting industries. Promotion of industrial technologies (terotechnology, corrosion and materials handling) and of low-cost automation, and sponsorship of mechanical handling and construction equipment industries. AB/MT

11
Paper, Timber, Minerals, Metals and Miscellaneous Manufactures. Industrial raw materials supply policy including mineral development in the UK. Administration of the Mineral Exploration and Investment Grants Act 1972. Waste management policies. Administration of the non-ferrous foundry industry scheme. Sponsorship of paper, timber, board, non-ferrous metals and miscellaneous manufactures industries, including pottery, glass, cutlery, furniture, etc. AB/MT

12
Shipbuilding Policy. Technological and sponsorship responsibilities for the shipbuilding, shiprepairing, boat building, slow speed diesel engine, marine equipment and hovercraft industries. Financial responsibilities at HQ for all proposals involving selective assistance to shipbuilding firms under sections 7 and 8 of the Industry Act 1972 including the intervention fund and cost escalation insurance. Administration of shipbuilding credit and grant schemes under sections 10 and 11 of the Industry Act 1972. Implementation of the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act for shipbuilding, ship-repairing and slow-speed diesel marine engine building industries. Relations with British Shipbuilders. MT

13
Iron and Steel. Policy relating to the iron and steel industry. Administration of the Iron and Steel Acts. BSC organisation, finance, investment and closures. Sponsorship of the private sector iron and steel industry and the foundry industry. ASH

14
Air. Sponsorship of the aircraft, aeroengine and aircraft equipment industries. Government investment in British Aerospace and in civil aircraft and aeroengine projects, including RB211 financing. International matters in the aircraft, aeroengine and aircraft equipment fields, including civil aircraft, aeroengine and aircraft equipment exports. Technical and market assessment of current and future civil aircraft and air transport systems. Co-ordination of the department's interest in defence matters. MH

15
Concorde and Nationalisation Compensation. British government policy on Concorde; supervision of the approved programme. Negotiation of compensation under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Act 1977. MH

16
Research and Technology Requirements and Space. Ship and marine technology, mechanical engineering and machine tools, garment and allied industries, and electrical technology R and D requirements boards; and Chief Scientist's board which covers other technologies. The boards determine the objectives and balance of the department's research and development programmes and the broad allocation of funds, further the practical application of technology and commission R and D work. Transfer of technology to industry. National Electronics Council, National Research Development Corporation and Design Council. Information on overseas science and technology, Scientific Counsellor reports, etc. Technical information services. Research and technological demonstration programmes on civil aircraft, aero-engines, aircraft equipment and civil space applications. International space interests, European Space Agency (applications programmes). Sponsorship of the space industry. AB/MH

Technology Reports Centre (St Mary Cray, Orpington, Kent BR5 3RF, tel. Orpington 32111). Information service for industry on UK government and overseas R and D, operates 'Techlink', a selective dissemination service, operates an on-line terminal to the data banks of the European space documentation service and other computer retrieval systems.

17
Research and Technology Requirements and Perspectives. Chemicals and minerals, engineering materials, and metrology and standards R and D requirements boards, which determine the objectives and balance of the department's research and development programmes and the broad allocation of funds, further the application of technology and commission R and D work. Departmental interest in government-financed research in universities, research councils and other departments. Departmental energy activities, EEC R and D programmes, and Laboratory of the Government Chemist's requirements committee. Advice on general science and technology policy issues and on co-ordination of R and D resources; studies on policy, organisation and long-term strategy. AB

18
Research Establishment Management. Responsibility for co-ordinating the management of the research establishments (REs) and through the council of the REs for co-ordinating the development of the research programmes and facilities, and of corporate marketing and exploitation strategy; representing the REs across the department and with major other departmental customers and at requirements boards; administration of financial and manpower matters at the REs including estimates and public expenditure survey forecasts. Membership of the council consists of directors of the REs under the chairmanship of Dr D. S. Davies, chief scientist, with Dr A. J. Robinson as executive deputy chairman.

19
Research Establishments, etc.
National Physical Laboratory (Teddington, Middx. Tel: 01-977 3222. Telex 262344). The laboratory is the national standards laboratory; it deals with measurement and the technical aspects of specification. The laboratory is also concerned with acoustics, computer usage and numerical analysis. *British Calibration Service.* Provides authenticated certification of the accuracy of measuring instruments of all kinds, with traceability of such calibrations to the national standards.

Warren Spring Laboratory (Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2BX, tel. Stevenage 3388, Telex 82250). Provides research services, advice and consultancy on: bulk materials handling technology for powders, pastes and slurries; micro processor based control systems and on-line analytical systems; mineral and metallurgical processing technology, materials recovery from domestic and industrial wastes; air and oil pollution measurement and abatement.

National Engineering Laboratory (East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QU, tel. East Kilbride 20222, Telex 77588). Design, research, development and test facilities are available in the fields of fluids and fluid machinery, machine tool control, engineering materials and structures, hydraulic fluid power, heat transfer, offshore engineering technology, and many other aspects of mechanical engineering. The research programme is drawn up to meet the needs of industry; sponsored investigations are also

Department of Industry

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undertaken on behalf of industrial firms, from whom inquiries are welcomed. The laboratory is well equipped with the most modern facilities.

National Maritime Institute (Feltham, Middx. Tel: 01-977 0933, Telex 263118). The National Maritime Institute with headquarters at Feltham (Middx) was set up in 1976 to continue and develop the maritime experimental work formerly carried out by the National Physical Laboratory, whose relevant staff and facilities have been transferred to the new institute. The institute is ideally equipped to undertake maritime experimental work for industry in addition to providing scientific support for government departments. Inquiries from commercial interests for consultation and the use of the extensive facilities are welcomed, such work being undertaken in complete confidence to the client.

Laboratory of the Government Chemist (Cornwall House, Stamford Street, London SE1 9NQ, tel. 01-928 7900). The functions of the laboratory are: 1. to discharge the statutory responsibilities of the Government Chemist; 2. to provide a comprehensive service of analysis, advice and studies based on chemistry in the public sector (government departments, other official public institutions, local authorities and official international organisations) and, where appropriate, the private sector; and 3. to conduct research in areas appropriate to the above.

Computer-aided Design Centre (Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HB. Tel: Cambridge 63125). Development of computer-aided design systems for chemical, mechanical, electrical electronic and civil engineering, building, construction and industrial design.

20

Industrial Adviser. Seconded from TGWU for two years. Provides advice to ministers and senior officials particularly on trade union aspects over the whole range of the department's activities, and to other departments. V

21

Industrial and Commercial Policy. General industrial strategy, and focal point for the department's interest in economic, financial, fiscal, trade, manpower, prices and incomes. Co-ordinating responsibility for section 8 Industry Act schemes. Also provides some common services for the Department of Trade. V

22

Industrial Planning. Work on the government's policy on planning agreements, and matters concerning the National Enterprise Board. Focal point for department's social and environmental policies. Also provides some common services for the Department of Trade. MT

23

Information. The public presentation of departmental policies, activities and services through press, radio and TV, and publicity services generally. The department's Chief Information Officer is also responsible for the information work of Common Services (see page 14). V

24

Posts and Telecommunications. Sponsorship of the Post Office's postal, telecommunications, data processing, and Giro and remittance services businesses; this includes borrowing and capital investment matters; planning; incomes policies; board appointments; constitutional, legislation and land questions. Sponsorship of Cable and Wireless Ltd. Nationalised industries: co-ordination of departmental policy.

Governmental aspects of international postal and telecommunications relations, including International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Universal Postal Union (UPU), CEPT, EEC and Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation (CTO) matters. WB

25

Parliamentary Branch. Responsible for co-ordinating the department's parliamentary work – public and private bills, subordinate legislation, parliamentary questions, etc. V

26

Common Services. Accountancy Services; Economics and Statistics; Establishment; Finance and Economic Appraisal; Solicitor's Department.

The above divisions serve the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection (see page 14).

EEC Information Unit

1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (01-215 4301).

The EEC Information Unit provides a free service for businessmen by answering general questions about EEC policy, procedures and legislation and by guiding them where necessary to specialist sources of information.

Regional Development and Investment Grants Offices

Billingham
Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Office, Queensway House, West Precinct, Billingham, Cleveland TS23 2NF. Tel: (0642) 553671. Telex 58608. Answer back: 58608 RDGBIL G.
Director: L. Noble
Area for which responsible: Regional development grants and investment grants – Cleveland, Cumbria (excluding Barrow-in-Furness, Dalton-in-Furness, Grange-over-Sands and Ulverston), Durham, Humberside, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, and Yorkshire; also East and West Lindsey in Lincolnshire but only the intermediate areas of Gainsborough, Horncastle, Louth, Mablethorpe and Skegness for regional development grants.

Bootle
Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Office, St. Peter's House, Stanley Precinct, Bootle, Merseyside L20 3LZ. Tel: 051-922 4030. Telex 627162. Answer back: 627162 RDGBOT G.
Director: L. Fouweather
Area for which responsible: Regional development grants and investment grants – Cheshire, parts of Cumbria (Barrow-in-Furness, Dalton-in-Furness, Grange-over-Sands and Ulverston), Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside; also the intermediate areas of Alfreton, Chesterfield, Clay Cross, Eckington, Heanor, the High Peak District and Stavely in Derbyshire, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Worksop in Nottinghamshire and Oswestry in Salop.

Cardiff
Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Office, 24-26 Newport Road, Cardiff CF2 1SY. Tel: (0222) 492611. Telex 49538. Answer back: 49538 RDGCAR G.
Director: J. M. G. Lynch.
Area for which responsible: Regional development grants – Wales, Cornwall (including the Isles of Scilly) and the assisted areas of Devonshire. This office also deals with residual questions on the derelict land clearance areas of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Staffordshire. Investment grants – Wales, Avon, Cornwall (including the Isles of Scilly), Derbyshire (except the High Peak District, Alfreton and Heanor), Devonshire, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Hereford and Worcester, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire (Boston, South Holland, North and South Kesteven and Lincoln City), Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire (except Worksop and Sutton-in-Ashfield), Salop (except Oswestry), Somerset, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and Wiltshire.

Glasgow
Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Office, Magnet House, 59 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 7BT. Tel: 041-221 9833. Telex 77611. Answer back: 77611 RDGGLA G.
Director: P. D. H. King.
Area for which responsible: Regional development grants and investment grants – Scotland.

London
Department of Industry, Regional Development Grants Division, Room 2722, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU. Tel: 01-211 5518. Telex 918829. Answer back: DTI Tower London.
Director: C. E. Ohlson.
Area for which responsible: Scotland, England and Wales; all applications for investment grant on ships, hovercraft and computers. Applications for investment grant on plant and machinery dealt with by the former Southend office for firms in Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hampshire (including the Isle of Wight), Hertfordshire, Kent, London (Greater London Council area), Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Suffolk, Surrey and Sussex are now dealt with by the following Regional Development Grants Offices, except for those firms who have already been otherwise informed:

Firms with titles beginning	RDGO
A–B and H–L	Billingham
C–G	Bootle
M–Z	Cardiff

1 Regional and District Offices

The Department of Industry's main regional network is based on its eight regional offices in England.

The regional offices represent the department in its dealings with industry, local authorities, the regional offices of other government departments and other local bodies and organisations. The regional offices are also responsible for administering selective assistance to industry in assisted areas and for other aspects of regional industrial development. Some activities are also undertaken by the regional offices on behalf of the Department of Trade, such as export promotion, while the regional offices also serve the Department of Energy.

In addition some parts of the work of these departments are handled through specialist local offices, including offices dealing with regional development grants and the residual investment grants under the Department of Industry and HM Coastguard, Mercantile Marine Offices, Marine Survey Offices and the Official Receivers in bankruptcy and company liquidation under the Department of Trade.

Regional development and investment grants offices are listed on page 5.

North
Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Cleveland, Durham and Cumbria (except the Employment Office areas of Barrow-in-Furness, Dalton-in-Furness, Ulverston and Grange-over-Sands)
Regional Director: R. L. Sutton
Industrial Director: H. T. Hill
■● Regional Office: Stanegate House, The Groat Market, *Newcastle upon Tyne* NE1 1YN (Newcastle upon Tyne (0632) 24722, Telex 53178).
● District Office for Cumbria: Town Hall, *Cockermouth,* Cumbria CA13 9NP (Cockermouth (0900) 823498, Telex 64173).

North-West
Cheshire, Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, High Peak District of Derbyshire and that part of Cumbria in the Employment Office areas of Barrow-in-Furness, Dalton-in-Furness, Ulverston and Grange-over-Sands
Regional Director: N. S. Belam
Regional Industrial Director: G. Moore
■● Regional Office: Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, *Manchester* M1 4BA (061-236 2171, Telex 667104).
Sub Office for Merseyside: 1 Old Hall Street, *Liverpool* L3 9HJ (051-236 5756, Telex 628013).

Yorkshire and Humberside
North, South and West Yorkshire and Humberside
Regional Director: D. M. Dell
Regional Industrial Director: A. F. A. Hassall
■● Regional Office: Priestley House, 1 Park Row, *Leeds* LS1 5LF (Leeds (0532) 443171, Telex 557925).

West Midlands
Salop, West Midlands Metropolitan County, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Hereford and Worcester
Regional Director: A. A. George
● Regional Office: Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, *Birmingham* B2 4DT (021-632 4111, Telex 337021).

East Midlands
Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire (except High Peak District), Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire
Regional Director: N. Lott
● Regional Office: Severns House, 20 Middle Pavement, *Nottingham* NG1 7DW (Nottingham (0602) 56181, Telex 37143).

London and South-East
Greater London, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Regional Director: A. C. Coging
Regional Office: Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, *London* W14 8QH (01-603 2060, Telex 25991).

South-West
Cornwall (including Isles of Scilly), Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Avon and Dorset
Regional Director: R. C. McVickers
Regional Industrial Director: D. Pike
● Regional Office: The Pithay, *Bristol* BS1 2PB (Bristol (0272) 291071, Telex 44214).
■ South-Western Industrial Development Office: Phoenix House, Notte Street, *Plymouth* PL1 2HF (Plymouth (0752) 21891/4, Telex 45494).

East
Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk
Regional Director: B. Feinstein
Regional Office: Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, *London* W14 8QH (01-603 2070, Telex 25991).
District Office for certain matters for Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Oxfordshire: Market Place House, *Reading,* Berks RG1 2EN (Reading (0734) 581261).

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

The Industrial Development Division of the Scottish Economic Planning Department (SEPD) in Glasgow and the Welsh Office Industrial Department in Cardiff, in addition to exercising those industrial functions which have been transferred to the Scottish and Welsh Secretaries of State, carry out certain functions for the Department of Industry on an agency basis.

Scotland
A. G. Manzie, Under-Secretary, Industrial Development Division of the Scottish Economic Planning Department.
Industrial Advisor: T. R. Dealtry
● Office for the whole of Scotland: Alhambra House, 45 Waterloo Street, Glasgow G2 6AT (041-248 2855, Telex 77583).
● District Office for the Highlands and Islands and North East Scotland: Caledonia House, 63/67 Academy Street, *Inverness* IV1 1LU (Inverness (0463) 30867/8).

Wales
J. H. Clement, Director, Industry Department of the Welsh Office.
A. Sutton, Industrial Director.
● Office for the whole of Wales: Government Buildings, Gabalfa, *Cardiff* CF4 4YL (Cardiff (0222) 62131, Telex 49267).
District Office for North Wales: Government Buildings, Dinerth Road *Colwyn Bay,* Clwyd (Colwyn Bay (0492) 44261).

Northern Ireland
D. Fell, Assistant Secretary, Department of Commerce, Northern Ireland.
● Office for the whole of Northern Ireland: Chichester House, 64 Chichester Street, *Belfast* BT1 4JX (Belfast (0232) 34488, Telex 747025).
Mr. Manzie, Mr. Clement and Mr. Fell act as the equivalent of the Regional Director for the Department of Industry, and Mr. Dealtry and Mr. Sutton, as the equivalent of the Regional Industrial Director.

■ Regional Industrial Director (in addition to Regional Director).
● Offices providing services for British exporters (services for British exporters in the London and South-East and Eastern regions are provided by the Department of Trade's headquarters' Export Services and Promotions Division).

Small Firms Information Centres

The Department of Industry in association with the Scottish Office and the Welsh Office operates a chain of 11 Small Firms Information Centres throughout Great Britain. The centres are designed to offer a free signposting service to small firms and people wishing to establish a business and to assist small firms in finding the right sources of help for their problems. Correspondence should be addressed 'Small Firms Information Centre'.

Birmingham. 53 Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DH (021-643 3344, Telex 337919).
Bristol. Colston Centre, Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4UB (0272 294546, Telex 449650).
Cardiff. 16 St. David's House, Wood Street, Cardiff CF1 1ER (0222 396116, Telex 497515).
Glasgow. 57 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6TU (041-248 6014, Telex 779334).
Leeds. 5 Royal Exchange House, City Square, Leeds LS1 5PQ (0532 445151, Telex 557687).
Liverpool. 1 Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 9HJ (051-236 5756, Telex 628013).
London. 65 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0QX (01-828 2384, Telex 917920).
Luton. 35 Wellington Street, Luton LU1 2SB (0582 29215, Telex 826115).
Manchester. Peter House, Oxford Street, Manchester M1 5AN (061-832 5282, Telex 667952).
Newcastle. 22 Newgate Shopping Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5RH (0632 25353, Telex 537429).
Nottingham. 48-50 Maid Marian Way, Nottingham NG1 6GF (0602 49791 Telex 377313).

Offices of the Department of Industry; the industrial divisions of the Scottish and Welsh Offices; and of the Department of Commerce, Northern Ireland.

2 Department of Trade

Overseas trade. The department is responsible for commercial policy and relations with overseas countries and is concerned with economic policies affecting the international position of the United Kingdom. It promotes United Kingdom commercial interests overseas, negotiates on trade and commercial matters, and administers United Kingdom protective tariffs. Under the direction of the British Overseas Trade Board, which was set up in January 1972 and has the Secretary of State for Trade as President, the department promotes British exports, providing an export information service to industry and commerce, largely through the eight regional offices, and handling government support for overseas trade fairs. The Export Credits Guarantee Department is a separate department responsible to the Secretary of State for Trade, providing a credit insurance facility, and guaranteeing finance, for exported goods and services.

Shipping and civil aviation. The department is the sponsor for the United Kingdom shipping and civil aviation industries including the conduct of international negotiations. It is also responsible for the regulation of marine safety.

The department sponsors the British Airways Board, the British Airports Authority and the Civil Aviation Authority, and approves the capital investment of these bodies. In addition, the department issues policy guidance to the Civil Aviation Authority and administers the authority's annual grant until such time as full recovery of costs is attained.

Commerce and industry. The department is responsible in general for the basic legal framework for the regulation of industrial and commercial enterprises, administering a number of statutes governing company affairs and insolvency. It also holds general responsibility for company law, patent, trade mark and copyright matters, and for all matters affecting insurance. The Department of Trade is also the sponsor department for tourism and the hotel and travel industries; the newspaper, printing and publishing industries; the film industry and the distributive and service trades.

Secretary of State for Trade and President of the Board of Trade
Edmund Dell

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State:
Trade
Michael Meacher

Overseas trade policy, including EEC questions, commercial relations and tariffs
Export Credits Guarantee Department
British Overseas Trade Board
Tourism and hotel and travel industries
Newspaper, film and publishing industries
Distributive and service trades

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State:
Companies, Aviation and Shipping
Stanley Clinton Davis

Civil aviation, marine and shipping policy
Companies legislation
Insurance supervision
Insolvency service
Patent Office

Department of Trade

2

Headquarters organisation

Permanent Secretary: Sir Leo Pliatzky

The chart below is not intended to show the relative status of the posts.

Deputy Secretary	Division or Department		Head of Division
S. D. Wilks Chief Executive **British Overseas Trade Board**	Export Services and Promotions Export Development Special Adviser on Japanese Market	ESP ED	W. K. Ward D. N. Royce E. J. Field
R. W. Gray	General Division Commercial Relations and Exports 1[1] Europe Industry and Technology	Gen CRE1 EIT	R. M. Allott S. Abramson Miss K. E. Boyes
J. R. Steele	Commercial Relations and Exports 2 Commercial Relations and Exports 3 Commercial Relations and Exports 4 Commercial Relations and Exports 5	CRE2 CRE3 CRE4 CRE5	W. M. Knighton Miss M. J. Lackey R. A. Browning P. L. Gregson
P. A. R. Brown	Patent Office Insurance Companies Insolvency Service Publishing, Tourism, Films and Distribution	Pats I C InsS PTFD	I. J. G. Davis M. H. M. Reid R. C. M. Cooper E. G. Harper D. Eagers
W. P. Shovelton	Civil Aviation Policy Civil Aviation International Relations Shipping Policy Marine	CAP CAIR SP MAR	G. C. Dick G. T. Rogers G. Lanchin J. N. Archer
	Chief Inspector of Accidents (Reports direct to Secretary of State) Information Parliamentary Branch	AIB Inf PB	W. H. Tench N. Gaffin P. E. R. Cohen

Industrial Advisers:[2]
S. Baker (Co-ordinator), B. Nicholls

Divisions providing a common service to the Departments of Trade, Industry, and Prices and Consumer Protection are shown on page 14.

[1] Branch 2 of CRE1 reports through Mr Abramson to Mr Steele [2] Work is also undertaken on behalf of the Department of Industry.

London addresses

Code	Address	Telephone	Telex
V	1 VICTORIA STREET, SW1H 0ET	01-215 7877	8811074/5
AD	The Adelphi, John Adam Street, WC2N 6BQ	01-217 3000	22119
AT	Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, EC1N 2HD	01-583 8931	
BR	2-14 Bunhill Row, EC1Y 7LL	01-606 4071	
CHA	Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, W14 8QH	01-603 4644	
CO	Companies House, 55-71 City Road, EC1Y 1BB	01-253 9393	
HH	Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, EC4M 7HU	01-248 5757	886143
K	Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, SW1E 6SJ	01-215 7877	8811074/5
P	Southampton Buildings, WC2 1AY	01-405 8721	
PS	Parliament Square House, 34-36 Parliament Street, SW1A 2ND	01-233 3000	24730
S	Sanctuary Buildings, 16-20 Great Smith Street, SW1P 3DB	01-215 7877	8811074/5
SM	Shell Mex House, Strand, WC2R 0DP	01-217 3000	22119
SU	Sunley House, 90-93 High Holborn, WC1V 6LP	01-405 6911	264084
TM	Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, WC2A 2JY	01-405 7641	
XH	Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, EC4M 7HU	01-248 5757	886143

Some activities are undertaken on behalf of the Department of Trade by the regional and district offices of the Department of Industry (see page 6). Each divisional entry following includes an address code to indicate its location.

2

Department of Trade

Address Code page 9

1

British Overseas Trade Board. President, Secretary of State for Trade; chairman, Sir Frederick Catherwood; vice-chairman, HRH The Duke of Kent. The board consists of representatives of industry and commerce and of the Confederation of British Industry, Trades Union Congress, and the Departments of Trade and Industry, Export Credits Guarantee Department and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. It directs the work of the Export Services and Promotions and Export Development Divisions and the Overseas Projects Group, and the Exports to Japan Unit. V

Exports to Japan Unit. Offers specialist advice on the Japanese market, and co-ordinates the export promotion programme for Japan, including that of the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo. HH

2

Export Development Division is responsible for: the development of the board's export promotion activities and financial control; the board's interest in the education and training for overseas trade and of overseas nationals in the UK; BOTB/NEDO liaison on industrial strategy; the administration of the BOTB secretariat and for supervision of:

a *Overseas Projects Group.* Co-ordination of official support for consultants, contractors, manufacturers and bankers pursuing major contracts in large projects overseas. Assistance in certain cases from the overseas projects fund with pre-contractual expenses of firms pursuing major contracts.

b *BOTB Publicity Unit.* Publicises the board's export services, keeps the British press informed of important trade events overseas and helps exporters obtain publicity for their products and services abroad;

c *Market Entry Guarantee Scheme Unit.* Administers the scheme; and

d *Queen's Awards Office.*

3

Export Services and Promotions. Under the direction of the British Overseas Trade Board and working closely with British Diplomatic Service Posts abroad, provides, with the export sections of the Department of Industry's regional offices, the Industrial Development Division of the Scottish Economic Planning Department, the Welsh Office Industry Department, and the Department of Commerce in Northern Ireland, advice, information and assistance to British companies engaged in overseas trading. Liaison with Technical Help to Exporters. XH

Co-ordination Branch. Co-ordination of policy on export services. Liaison with FCO overseas posts and other departments. Policy guidance on export services to Department of Industry regional offices. Liaison with Technical Help to Exporters. XH

General Export Services Branch. Export services for firms in the London and South Eastern Region and the Eastern Region. Supply of information on overseas market prospects for particular goods. Help with business visits abroad and in making trade contacts overseas. Liaison with trade associations, etc. XH

Special Export Services Branch. Export marketing research scheme. Arrangements for inward missions, VIPs and other business visitors from overseas. Home duty tours for commercial officers from overseas. Liaison with Export Clubs. European Components Service. British Export Trade Research Organisation (BETRO) Trust. Services to exporters of 'invisibles'. XH

Export Data Branch. Export Intelligence Service – a computer-based service providing subscribers with details of specific export opportunities and market intelligence on a selective basis. Collection, storage and dissemination of information on markets and marketing methods. Information on overseas tariffs and import regulations. Commercial standing of overseas firms. 'Hints to Businessmen' publications. XH

Fairs and Promotions Branch. Supports collective participation at overseas trade fairs through the joint venture and British pavilion schemes. Organises all-British fairs and symposia, and provides support for store promotions. Provides general information on overseas trade fairs. Supports groups of British businessmen visiting overseas markets through the outward mission scheme. Liaison with UK trade fairs and exhibition industry. HH

4

Commercial Relations and Exports. Protection and promotion of UK commercial interests overseas. Treaties and trade agreements with other countries, representations on commercial matters, etc. Assisted overseas by commercial departments of missions and consulates. There are five divisions. The first is concerned with matters of general external trade policy (mainly now handled through the EEC) including GATT and UNCTAD. The second covers export policy, general questions on export credit, export licensing and the department's overall interest in overseas aid; and individual country responsibility for north America. The other three divisions have responsibility for commercial relations with individual countries and related general groupings; and generally for country-related export promotion. V

Responsibility also for:

International Technological Collaboration Unit (Culham Laboratory, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. Tel: Abingdon (0235) 21840, Telex: 83189). Responsible for implementing technological collaboration agreements between Britain and other countries; assists in technological exchanges.

5

Europe, Industry and Technology. Co-ordination of interests of Departments of Trade, Industry, and Prices and Consumer Protection on a wide range of matters relating to UK membership of the European Communities. Main policy responsibility for advice to industry and commerce on these subjects. Departmental link with parliamentary scrutiny committees. Industrial and technological aspects of UK membership of EEC and co-ordination of departmental work in this field. Technological relations with west European countries. V

6

General. Anti-dumping investigations; protective actions against disruptive imports; import licensing; import duties; duty reliefs and remission; tariff origin rules; and general questions arising on the EEC Common Customs Tariff. The division is also responsible for the Department of Trade input into general economic and industrial policy and co-ordination of the department's policy towards import saving. K

Import licensing CHA

7

Companies. Review of companies legislation; harmonisation of EEC company law; inflation accounting; industrial democracy. Administration of the Companies Acts and related legislation; Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act, Protection of Depositors Act, etc; unit trusts; relations with the accountancy profession. Consideration of applications for investigation and carrying out investigations of companies under sections 164, 165, 172 and 334 of the 1948 Companies Act; inquiries under sections 32 and 109 of the 1967 Companies Act and arrangements for supervision of the securities market. S

Companies Registration Office

8

Industrial Advisers. Provide industrial advice for ministers and senior officials over the whole range of the department's activities, and beyond to other departments and to NEDO, the British Overseas Trade Board, etc. The advisers have generally been directors of large companies. Each has experience of general management and more specific experience in the export and other specialised fields, and they work within government for about two years. V

9

Insurance. Administration of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 including the authorisation and supervision of insurers; other matters affecting the insurance industry in Great Britain; matters affecting the overseas interests of British insurers including work in intergovernmental institutions, eg EEC, OECD and UNCTAD. S

10

Insolvency Service. All aspects of insolvency administration, including the winding-up of companies under the Companies Acts and the failures of individuals under the Bankruptcy and Deeds of Arrangement Acts: the Insolvency Act 1976. Administration of the Official Receivers' service in the High Courts and provincial offices. Supervision of liquidators and trustees; accounting for and management of funds. Insolvency matters affected by EEC legislation and EEC Draft Bankruptcy Convention. BR

Official Receivers (*High Court Offices*)

Bankruptcy TM

Companies Winding Up AT

Official Receivers (*Provincial offices*) BR

11

Patent Office and Industrial Property and Copyright Department. Registration of patents, designs and trade marks. Policy on these matters and on copyright (and sub-office at Baskerville House, Browncross Street, New Bailey Street, Salford M3 5FU. Tel: 061-832 9571 – Trade marks and designs only). P

12

Publishing, Tourism, Films and Distribution. Sponsorship of film industry, hotel industry, tourism, the printing, publishing and newspaper industries, personal service and distributive trades (other than food and drink), commercial agents. CL

13

Civil Aviation Policy. Responsibility for civil aviation legislation and sponsorship role in relation to airlines and airports. Policy towards British Airways, British Airports Authority, and Civil Aviation Authority. Formulation of policy and co-ordination of action on civil aviation security and on aircraft noise and other environmental effects. The civil aviation safety adviser provides advice on technical and operational safety matters. SM AD and V

14

Civil Aviation (International Relations). International relations including negotiations for traffic rights covering both scheduled and non-scheduled air services. Relations with international civil aviation bodies, notably ICAO

Department of Trade

2

Index page 15

and ECAC. Secretariat of the Commonwealth Air Transport Council. EEC involvement in civil aviation matters. SM

15

Marine. Administration of merchant shipping legislation. Safety, construction and equipment (through marine survey offices). Crew matters (through mercantile marine offices and the Registry of Shipping), marine pollution, navigational aids, work in tidal waters, etc. SU

HM Coastguard. Co-ordination of marine search and rescue. SU

16

Shipping Policy. General policy questions affecting the UK merchant fleet including fiscal policy, investment incentives, defence considerations, and structure, profitability and economic health of the industry. International shipping policy issues including flag discrimination, the role of governments in relation to shipping conferences, flags of convenience, law of the sea and various international conventions on shipowners' liability. Consideration of EEC shipping policy. General policy towards IMCO. Discussion and negotiation on such issues with other governments either directly or in UNCTAD, IMCO, OECD, EEC and other international fora AD

Shipping Services. Provision of shipping and shipping intelligence services for government departments for both civil and defence purposes. PS

17

Accidents Investigation Branch. The investigation, in the United Kingdom, of accidents in which any civil aircraft are involved and participation in other administrations' investigations elsewhere of accidents to British registered or manufactured aircraft. Reports direct to the secretary of state. K

18

Information. The public presentation of departmental policies, activities and services through press, radio and TV and publicity services generally. Common Services provide other information services on behalf of the department (see page 14).

19

Parliamentary Branch. Responsible for the department's parliamentary work – public and private bills, subordinate legislation, parliamentary questions, etc.

20

Common Services. Accountancy Services; Economics and Statistics; Establishment; Finance and Economic Appraisal; Solicitor's Department.

The above divisions serve the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection (see page 14).

Export Credits Guarantee Department

Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL (01-606 6699, Telex 883601)

A separate government department responsible to the Secretary of State for Trade, ECGD provides credit insurance for UK exporters against non-payment risks, guarantees to banks for export finance, and insurance against political risks on new overseas investments. Support is also available against cost-escalation on certain large capital goods contracts; and for performance bonds on large cash or near-cash contracts.

Headquarters organisation

K. Taylor (*Secretary and Head of Department*)

D. C. Smith
Comprehensive Guarantee Underwriting Group

K. W. Cotterill (*Deputy Head of Department*)
Project Underwriting Group A

R. T. Kemp
Project Underwriting Group B

J. Gill
Departmental Services Group

Comprehensive Guarantee Underwriting Group: Wholeturnover supplier credit insurance for continuous business by manufacturers, merchants, confirming houses or overseas subsidiaries of UK firms, involving exports of raw materials, semi-manufactures, consumer goods, consumer durables, production-line equipment and engineering goods. External trade. Overseas stockholding. Financial accounting and refinancing. Data processing. Claims. ECGD regional organisation; offices at:

Central London	Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3PB
North London	593-599 High Road, Tottenham, London N17 6SW
South London	320 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR9 4HL
Belfast	River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE
Birmingham	Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB
Bristol	1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NP
Cambridge	72-80 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NJ
Glasgow	Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL
Leeds	West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS2 5AA
Manchester	Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 4AJ

Project Underwriting Group A: Project underwriting policy and procedures. Specific supplier credit guarantees, buyer credits and lines of credit for Eastern Bloc countries. Guarantees for banks providing export finance. Guarantees for performance bonds on capital goods contracts of £500,000 upwards. Financing of buyer credits in foreign currencies.

Project Underwriting Group B: Specific supplier credit guarantees, buyer credits and lines of credit (except exports to Eastern Bloc countries). Guarantees for exports of ships, arms and civil aircraft, for overseas constructional works and for 'services' (consultancies, 'know how', leasing, etc). Insurance of new overseas investment against political risks. Cost escalation scheme for capital contracts of £2 million upwards.

Departmental Services Group: ECGD's Parliamentary work, policy coordination, assessment of market conditions, relations with export credit authorities overseas, international export credit agreements, publicity.

Official Receivers' offices

Official Receivers are responsible for the administration of cases in bankruptcy and compulsory liquidation. Inquiries should be addressed to the nearest Official Receiver.

High Court of Justice
Senior Official Receiver: J. B. Clemetson.

Bankruptcy
Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY (01-405 7641).
Official Receivers: D. A. Thorne; J. Tye.

Companies Winding-up
Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD (01-583 8931).
Official Receivers: L. R. Bates; N. Saddler; H. W. J. Christmas.

Birmingham. Commercial Union House, Martineau Square, Birmingham B2 4UP (021-236 8831/7). A. K. Sales, J. F. Hirst.

Bournemouth. Burlington Arcade, Bournemouth BH1 2JS (0202-28208/9). C. G. Churcher.

Bradford. West Riding House, Cheapside, Bradford BD1 4LJ (0274-33651/2). V. Duffy.

Brighton. Windsor House (East Entrance), 30-35 Edward Street, Brighton BN2 2JZ (0273-64301/4 and 688265/8). J. F. O'Reilly.

Bristol. Sun Alliance House, 4 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4BN (0272-290268). D. S. Clackett.

Cambridge. 49 Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LT (0223-58911). W. J. Llewellyn.

Canterbury. Lombard House, 12-17 Upper Bridge Street, Canterbury CT1 2NQ (0227-62070 and 65037). A. Rout.

Cardiff. 3rd Floor, Hayes House, The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 2UG (0222-30575/6/7). R. G. Waldron.

Continued on page 13

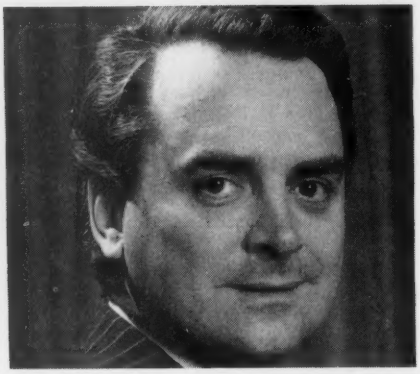
3 Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection was set up in March 1974, under a secretary of state, and took over responsibility from the former Department of Trade and Industry for policy on prices and consumer affairs, and from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for policy on food prices. The department administers powers under the price policy legislation. It deals with consumer affairs generally and is responsible for policy on fair trading, home and consumer safety, consumer credit, quality assurance, standards, weights and measures (including metrication) and for monopolies, mergers and restrictive practices. The Director General of Fair Trading is appointed by the secretary of state.

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection
Roy Hattersley

Minister of State
John Fraser

Consumer protection
Home and consumer safety
Trading standards
Restrictive practices
Monopolies and mergers
Metrication
Consumer credit
National Consumer Council
Consumer Advice Centres and Citizens' Advice Bureaux



Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
Robert Maclennan

Prices policy
Food subsidies
Consumer interest in commodity markets
Nationalised Industry Consumer Councils
Common agricultural policy and common fisheries policy
Price display

Headquarters organisation

Permanent Secretary: Sir Kenneth Clucas

The chart is not intended to show the relative status of the posts.

Deputy Secretary	Division or Department		Head of Division,
J. C. Burgh	Prices Policy	PP	C. W. Roberts
	Consumer Services, Commodities and Consumer Credit	CCC	I. H. Lightman
	Fair Trading	FT	D. N. Byrne
	Metrology, Quality Assurance and Standards	MQS	E. N. Eden [1]
	Information	Inf	M. A. S. Garrod [1]
	Personnel and General Co-ordinator		Vacant
	Parliamentary Branch	PB	T. D. Lloyd

[1] Report direct to Sir Kenneth Clucas.

Special advisers to secretary of state: Professor M. Peston and D. Hill.

Divisions providing a common service to the Departments of Prices and Consumer Protection, Trade, and Industry are shown on page 14.

The department also has responsibility for the work of the Price Commission, the Office of Fair Trading, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, the Metrication Board, the British Hallmarking Council, the Hearing Aid Council, the National Consumer Council, the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee, and the Nationalised Industry Consumer Councils.

London addresses

Code	Address	Telephone	Telex
V	1 VICTORIA STREET, SW1H 0ET	01-215 7877	8811074/5
AB	Abell House, John Islip Street, SW1P 4LN	01-211 3000	
CS	Chapter Street House, 26 Chapter Street, SW1P 4NS	01-834 7032	

Each divisional entry following includes an address code to indicate its location.

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

3

Address Code page 12

1

Prices Policy. The secretary of state's responsibilities under the price investigations system established by the Price Commission Act. The preparation of the price code. Departmental interest in pay policy. V

2

Consumer Services, Commodities and Consumer Credit. Departmental interest in national and international agricultural questions, including the common agricultural policy, and in raw materials, commodities and fresh foods. Policy and legislation on food subsidies, price display and price surveys. Orders under the Prices Act 1974. Price questions on certain foods. Policy on local consumer advice services. Responsibility for the nationalised industry consumer councils and the National Consumer Council. The Consumer Credit Act 1974. Enforcement of hire purchase and hiring controls and administration of hire purchase legislation. V

3

Fair Trading. Monopolies, mergers and restrictive practices (including EEC competition rules). Consumer protection policy (other than standards, weights and measures, and consumer credit). Safety of consumer goods, including fireworks. Certification trade marks and hall-marking. Liaison with the Office of Fair Trading and the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. V

4

Metrology, Quality Assurance and Standards. Co-ordination of government policy on standards and quality assurance and on technical barriers to trade. British participation in international standards organisations. Government support of the British Standards Institution. Co-ordination of government policy on metrication and liaison with Metrication Board. AB

Legal Metrology Branch. Provides a technical service for the control of weights and measures to authorities and others in discharge of the department's statutory responsibilities under the Weights and Measures Acts 1963 and 1976 and the European Communities Act 1972. CS

5

Information. The public presentation of departmental policies, activities and services through press, radio and TV and publicity services generally. Common Services provide other information services on behalf of the department (see page 14). V

6

Parliamentary Branch. Responsible for co-ordinating the department's parliamentary work – public and private bills, subordinate legislation, parliamentary questions, etc. V

7

Common Services. Accountancy Services; Economics and Statistics; Establishment; Finance and Economic Appraisal: Solicitor's Department.

The above divisions serve the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection (see page 14).

Associated organisations of the three Departments

Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency. 20 Manvers Street, Bath BA1 1LX (0225-6969).

British Airports Authority. 2 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6JL (01-834 6621, Telex 919039).

British Hallmarking Council. PO Box 47, 41 Church Street, Birmingham B3 2DY (021-236 9021).

British Standards Institution. 2 Park Street, London W1A 2BS (01-629 9000).

British Tourist Authority. Queen's House, 64 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1NF (01-629 9191).

Civil Aviation Authority. Space House, 43/59 Kingsway, London WC2B 6TE (01-379 7311).

Design Council. 28 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4SU (01-839 8000).

English Tourist Board. 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU (01-730 3400).

Hearing Aid Council. 40a Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7DE (01-638 9226).

Metrication Board. 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE (01-242 6828).

Monopolies and Mergers Commission. New Court, 48 Carey Street, London WC2A 2JT (01-831 6111).

National Consumer Council. 18 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AA (01-930 5752).

National Computing Centre. Oxford Road, Manchester M1 7ED (061-228 6333, Telex 668962).

National Research Development Corporation. Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL (01-828 3400, ext. 468).

Office of Fair Trading. Field House, Breams Buildings, London EC4A 1PR (01-242 2858).

Performing Right Tribunal. Room 105, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AY (01-405 8721, ext. 3353).

Price Commission. Neville House, Page Street, London SW1P 4LS (01-222 8020).

Scottish Consumer Council. 4 Somerset Place, Glasgow G3 7JT (041-332 3377).

Welsh Consumer Council. 8 St Andrew's Place, Cardiff CF1 3BE (0222-25416 and 27311).

Official Receivers' offices

continued from page 11

Chester. Dee Hills Park, Chester CH3 5AR (0244 21471/2). H. Robertson.

Croydon. Park House, 22 Park Street, Croydon CR9 1TX (01-681 2633). R. A. D. Copper.

Exeter. Eastgate House, High Street, Exeter EX4 3JU (0392-36886). A. J. Seldon.

Gloucester. Grosvenor House, Station Road, Gloucester GL1 1ST (0452-21658/9 and 27997). H. W. Kirkwood.

Hull. Beverley House, St. Stephen's Square, Hull HU1 3XF (0482-23720 and 23729). J. E. Friend.

Ipswich. St. Clare House, Greyfriars, Ipswich IP1 1LX (0473-56731). T. A. Tuck.

Leeds. Pearl Chambers, East Parade, Leeds LS1 5BX (0532-448851). W. A. Bishop.

Leicester. Prospect House, 94 Regent Road, Leicester LE1 7DE (0533-22251/3). H. Roach.

Liverpool. West Africa House, 25 Water Street, Liverpool L2 0RQ (051-236 9131/2), K. Matthewson.

Manchester. Townbury House, 11 Blackfriars Street, Salford M3 5AB (061-832 2471) K. A. Miller; F. A. I. Anaway.

Newcastle upon Tyne. 3rd Floor, 4 St. Nicholas Buildings, St. Nicholas Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1RF (0632-21104/5). R. Graham.

Northampton. 90 Abington Street, Northampton NN1 2BX (0604-37288/9). W. J. Llewellyn.

Norwich. Davey House, Castle Meadow. Norwich NOR 02D (0603-28983/4). T. A. Tuck.

Nottingham. Severns House, 20 Middle Pavement, Nottingham NG1 3DW (0602-51596/8). W. W. Jordan.

Plymouth. 63 New George Street, Plymouth PL1 1RD (0752-68554). A. J. Seldon.

Reading. PO Box No. 40, Monarch House, 75-79 Caversham Road, Reading RG1 8AW (0734-581931/5). E. A. Perkins.

Rochester. Gordon House, Star Hill, Rochester (0634-42603 and 46906). A. Rout.

St. Annes-on-Sea. Petros House, St. Andrews Road North, Lytham St. Annes FY8 2JD (0253-721271). M. Clark.

Sheffield. 8/12 Furnival Gate, The Moor, Sheffield S1 4QN (0742-26691/3). T. Wilks.

Southampton. Western Range, 83-85 London Road, Southampton SO9 1NQ (0703-23348/9 and 23340). C. G. Churcher.

Southend. 2nd Floor, Colman House, 61 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6EF (0702-41316/7). J. M. Christensen.

Stockton. 4 Bridge Road, Stockton-on-Tees, Teesside TS18 3BP (0642-65598/9). R. Graham.

Stoke. London House, Hide Street, Stoke-on-Trent ST4 1QN (0782-45256/8). A. N. Percy.

Swansea. 5th Floor, Sun Alliance Building, 166/167 St. Helens' Road, Swansea SA1 5DL (0792-42861/3). P. W. Nunn.

Watford. 40 Clarendon Road, Watford WD1 1HJ (0923-44288). F. L. Sage.

4 Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection:

Common Services

The chart below is not intended to show the relative status of the posts.

Deputy Secretary	Division or Department		Head of Division
R. F. Prosser Principal Establishment and Finance Officer	Establishment Personnel	EP	H. Scholes
	Establishment Management Services and Manpower	EM	G. C. Lowe
	Establishment General Services	EG	J. Fish
	Finance and Economic Appraisal	FEA	R. H. F. Croft
M. J. Kerry The Solicitor	Overseas Trade and ECGD	Sol A	T. D. Salmon
	Domestic Commercial Law and Consumer Protection	Sol B	G. A. Preston
	Prosecutions and Investigations	Sol C	M. J. Ware
	Industry and Financial Assistance	Sol D	J. B. Evans
H. H. Liesner Chief Economic Adviser L. S. Berman Director of Statistics	Economics and Statistics 1	EcS 1	E. H. M. Price
	Economics and Statistics 3	EcS 3	P. M. Rees
	Economics and Statistics 4	EcS 4	N. K. A. Gardner
	Economics and Statistics 5	EcS 5	P. D. Dworkin
	Economics and Statistics 6	EcS 6	S. F. James
	Business Statistics Office	BSO	R. Ash
	Accountancy Services	ASD	J. A. Knox
	Information	Inf	R. J. J. Tuite

The deputy secretaries each report to the permanent secretaries of the three departments as appropriate on matters affecting their respective departments. Mr. Knox reports to Mr. Sharp (shown under Department of Industry).

London addresses

Code	Address	Telephone	Telex
V	1 VICTORIA STREET, SW1H 0ET	01-215 7877	8811074/5
AB	Abell House, John Islip Street, SW1P 4LN	01-211 3000	
HH	Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, EC4M 7HU	01-248 5757	
K	Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, SW1E 6SJ	01-215 7877	
XH	Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, EC4M 7HU	01-248 5757	886143

Each divisional entry includes an address code to indicate its location.

1

Accountancy Services. A common service to the Departments of Industry, Trade, Energy and Prices and Consumer Protection for all accountancy questions. HH

2

Economics and Statistics. Economic and statistical analysis and advice; forecasts and special studies to assist in formulating economic and industrial policies; data collection and processing. There are five divisions providing a common service to the Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection. They are: industrial, regional, and aerospace economics (EcS1); manufacturing industry – monitoring and assessment (EcS3); home economy – economics and statistics; price code and consumer protection: shipping and aviation economics (EcS4); international trade and balance of payments (EcS5); financial statistics; statistics of research and development; statistics of the distributive and services trades (EcS6). V

Business Statistics Office (Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NP7 1XG. Tel: 0633 56111). The principal government agency for collecting and processing statistics from business firms.

3

Establishment. There are three divisions which provide common services to the Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection. Establishment Personnel – personnel management, including senior staff management; Establishment Management Services and Manpower – organisational matters, management services, manpower forecasts, complementing and staff inspection, public appointments, honours; Establishment General Services – establishment matters common to all classes, office services, libraries, training and dispersal policy. V

Statistics and Market Intelligence Library. A reference library for the use of the departments and the public of material on overseas markets, including large collections of economic and general statistics, catalogues of foreign manufacturers, overseas market surveys and development plans, and overseas trade and telephone directories. XH

4

Finance and Economic Appraisal. General financial policy and control for the Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection. Co-ordination and preparation of the estimates and PES forecasts. Development and application of criteria for evaluation of current and proposed expenditure and of the effectiveness of the expenditure programmes. Liaison and co-ordination for Exchequer and Audit Department, Public Accounts Committee and Select Committee on Expenditure. Control of accounts work and internal audit. AB

5

Solicitor's Department. Acts as adviser on legal matters involved in the work of the Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection and the Export Credits Guarantee Department. It is responsible for drafting all subordinate legislation, and for prosecutions arising from department-administered acts. There are four divisions. Division A – overseas trade and ECGD; Division B – domestic commercial law and consumer protection; Division C – prosecutions and investigations; Division D – industry and industrial assistance, posts and telecommunications and patents. K

6

Information. Paid publicity, external and internal publications, including *Trade and Industry,* and the EEC Information Unit (see page 5). The Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection undertake the public presentation of their own departmental business (see pages 4, 11, and 13). V

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Article 100 checklist: eliminating technical barriers to trade

Below we print the usual quarterly revision of the checklist showing the directives proposed, approved, or adopted under article 100 of the treaty of Rome. The last list was published in *Trade and Industry*, 14 October. A background article on elimination of technical barriers to trade appeared in the August 1974 issue of the *European Community Commentary*.

A word on terminology. A preliminary draft is really nothing more than a working document for commission working groups, and may appear in any number of revisions. A commission proposal is the final version of the draft as submitted by the commission to the council of ministers. It too may undergo revision as a result of representations by member states at council meetings, and may even be remitted to the commission for further elaboration.

A directive does not have direct internal effect, but creates obligations on the governments of the member states to ensure that its requirements are strictly and fully implemented, where necessary by national legislation. Once adopted, council directives may be adapted to technical progress by directives issued either by the commission or if necessary, by the council on a proposal from the commission.

The texts of adopted directives are published in the 'L' (Legislation) series of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and the text of commission proposals in the 'C' (Information and Notices) series. Preliminary drafts and council revisions of commission proposals are not published.

In the list below, the dates of issue of the *Official Journal* containing texts of adopted and proposed directives are given where they are known. The *Journal* has appeared in English only since 1 January 1973, but the English texts of adopted directives published before then (together with all other pre-accession community legislation) were issued in a series of special editions of the *Official Journal* in December 1972. Asterisks indicate where changes in the status of documents have occurred during the past quarter. The *Official Journal* is available from HM Stationery Office.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Motor vehicles		
Type approval	70/156/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	COM(76)721 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 2.2.77)
Rear registration plates	70/222/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
Sound level and exhaust system	70/157/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 73/350/EEC of 7.11.73	Commission directive (*OJ* 22.11.73)
	77/212/EEC of 8.3.77	Directive amending 70/157/EEC (*OJ* 12.3.77)
Fuel tanks and rear protective devices	70/221/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	XI/249/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
	XI/260/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progress
Audible warning devices	70/388/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Air pollution by gases from positive ignition (spark ignition) engines	70/220/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/290/EEC of 28.5.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.6.74)
	77/102/EEC of 30.11.76	Commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC (*OJ* 3.2.77 L32)
Steering equipment	70/311/EEC of 8.6.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.6.70)
Doors	70/387/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Direction indicator lamps	76/759/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark ignition engines	72/245/EEC of 20.6.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.7.72)
Installation of lighting and light signalling devices	76/756/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Windscreen-wiper and windscreen-washer systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
Field of vision	COM(75)619 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
	Directive adopted but not yet published	Directive adopted but not yet published
Rear-view mirrors	71/127/EEC of 1.3.71	Directive (*OJ* 22.3.71)
	XI/453/76	Preliminary draft
Electrical connections between vehicles and their trailers	COM(68)633 FINAL	Commission proposal withdrawn. Further work in hand
Reverse and speedometer equipment	75/443/EEC of 26.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.75)
Electrical circuits	Work not started	
Maximum speed (method of determination)	Work not started	
Braking devices	71/320/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/132/EEC of 11.2.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 19.3.74)
	Adapted further to technical progress by 75/524/EEC of 25.7.75	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.9.75) and corrigendum (*OJ* 23.9.75)
Safety glass	COM(72)981 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.11.72)
Interior fittings (interior part of the passenger compartment other than interior rear-view mirrors, layout of controls, roof or sliding roof, backrest and rear part of seats)	74/60/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Arrangement of foot controls	XI/341/76	Preliminary draft
Identification of controls tell-tales and indicators	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
Tyres	COM(76)712 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Mechanical coupling	XI/14/77	Preliminary draft
equipment between vehicles and trailers		
Anchorages for safety belts	76/115/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Emission of pollutants by motor vehicles with diesel fuelled (compression ignition) engines *	72/306/EEC of 2.8.72	Directive (*OJ* 20.8.72)
	Corrigendum to 72/306/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 23.11.77)
External projections	74/483/EEC of 17.9.74	Directive (*OJ* 2.10.74)
Head-restraints of seats	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Devices to prevent the unauthorised use	74/61/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Strength of seats and their anchorages	74/408/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Behaviour of the steering mechanism in the event of impact	74/297/EEC of 4.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.6.74)
Safety belts and restraint systems	77/541/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Statutory plates and inscriptions, their location and method of attachment	76/114/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Windscreen defrosting and demisting systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
Interior fittings – seats (other than strength of seats and anchorages)	Work not started	
Special provisions for public transport vehicles	XI/347/76	Preliminary draft
Special provisions for taxis	Work not started	
Special provisions for goods vehicles	XI/1042/76	Preliminary draft
Towing-devices	77/389/EEC of 17.5.77	Directive (*OJ* 13.6.77)
Legs of trailers and semi-trailers	XI/508/73 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Reflex reflectors	76/757/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Front fog lamps and filament lamps	76/762/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear registration plate lamps	76/760/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
End-outline marker lamps, front position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps, and stop lamps	76/758/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Headlamps	76/761/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear fog lamps	77/538/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Parking lamps	77/540/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Reversing lamps	77/539/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Hazard warning devices	Work not started	
Springs	Work not started	
Verification of fuel consumption	XI/702/76	Preliminary draft
Heating systems	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Wheel guards	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Weights and dimensions	COM(76)701 FINAL	Commission proposal
Tractors and agricultural machinery		
Type approval	74/150/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Maximum design speed and load platforms	74/152/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Certain parts and characteristics	74/151/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Projecting parts	XI/48/74	Preliminary draft following reconsideration of COM(68)565 FINAL
Towable load	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
Rear-view mirrors	74/346/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Lighting and light signalling devices	COM(74)895 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Steering equipment	75/321/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Power connection for lighting and light signalling devices	75/323/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark-ignition engines	75/322/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Driver's seat	XI/604/76	Preliminary draft
Passenger seats	76/763/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Coupling between tractor and trailer	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
Braking devices	76/432/EEC of 6.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 8.5.76)
Safety glass	XI/299/74	Preliminary draft
Emission of pollutants from diesel engines	77/537/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
Tyres	Work not yet started	
Power take-off	Work started but no papers yet available	
Field of vision and windscreen wipers	74/347/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	Work started but no papers yet available	
Length, width and unladen Height	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum authorised weight on each axle and distribution of weight between axles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum vertical load applied to mechanical coupling devices	XI/509/73	Preliminary draft
Speed governor	Work started but no papers yet available	
Reverse gear	Work started but no papers yet available	
Rollover protection structures	77/536/EEC of 28.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 29.8.77)
	XI/1036/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft technical annexes
	III/794/77	Modification of XI/1036/76 Rev 1
Other means of protection against the weather	Work started but no papers yet available	
Location identification and operation of controls	XI/44/74	Preliminary draft
Coupling hooks (front coupling devices)	Work started but no papers yet available	
Driver-perceived noise level	77/311/EEC of 29.3.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Metrological		
General directive	71/316/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	72/427/EEC of 19.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.72)
Clinical mercury-in-glass maximum reading thermometers	76/764/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Medium accuracy bar and cylindrical weights	71/317/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
Measuring of the standard mass per storage volume of grain	71/347/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Calibration of the tanks of vessels	71/349/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Material measures of length	73/362/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	III/771/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft commission directive adapting 73/362/EEC to technical progress
Non-automatic weighing machines	73/360/EEC of 19.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73)
	76/696/EEC of 27.7.76	Commission directive: technical progress adaptation (*OJ* 27.8.76)
Electrical energy meters	76/891/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
Meters for liquids other than water	71/319/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.71)
Measuring systems for liquids other than water	77/313/EEC of 5.4.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water	71/348/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Gas volume meters	71/318/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/331/EEC of 12.6.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	XI/355/76 Rev 3	Preliminary draft Second technical progress adaptation
Making-up by volume of certain prepackaged liquids*	75/106/EEC of 19.12.74	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 19.10.77)
	XI/948/76	
	XI/1082/76	
	COM(77)455 FINAL	
Bottles used as measuring containers	75/107/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75)
Cold water meters	75/33/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Hot water meters *	XI/996/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)495 FINAL	Commission proposal
Thermal energy meters	III/214/77	Preliminary draft
Road and rail transport tanks for use as measuring containers		Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74) withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Taximeters	77/95/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Alcoholmeters and alcohol hydrometers	76/765/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
	Corrigenda	(*OJ* 5.3.77)
Alcohol tables	76/766/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Saccharimeters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Continuous totalising weighing machines	75/410/EEC of 24.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
Instruments for determining the fat content of dairy produce	Work started but no papers yet available	
Metallic manometers	III/1919/72	Preliminary draft in abeyance. Further work in hand
Apparatus for measuring arterial pressure	Work started but no papers yet available	
Weights of from 1 mg to 50 kg of above medium accuracy	74/148/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Instruments for measuring moisture content of grain	XI/86/74	Preliminary draft
Electronic devices incorporated or associated with measuring instruments	XI/667/76 Rev 4	Preliminary draft
Units of measurement	71/354/EEC of 18.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 29.10.71)
	76/770/EEC of 27.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
	Corrigenda to 76/770/EEC	(*OJ* 14.12.76)
Check-weighing and grading machines	COM(75)573 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Making up by weight or by volume of certain prepackaged products	76/211/EEC of 20.1.76	Directive (*OJ* 21.2.76 L46)
Differential pressure gasmeters	Work not yet started	
Ranges of nominal quantities permitted for certain prepackaged products	COM(76)384 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 18.8.76)
Scales of charges for the testing of gas meters	COM(74)776 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.7.74)
Instruments for measuring pollution of air	Work not yet started	
Electrical		
Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits	73/23/EEC of 19.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 26.3.73)
Electro-medical equipment Medical X-ray equipment	COM(74)2178 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 12.2.75)
Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (framework directive)	76/117/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Electrical equipment for use in explosive atmospheres (special directive)	XI/508/75	Preliminary draft
	XI/1119/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
	XI/79/77	Amendment
	XI/80/77	Amendment
Radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment	76/889/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
	Corrigendum	(*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from fluorescent lighting luminaires	76/890/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
	Corrigendum	(*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from radio and television sets	COM(73)569 FINAL	Commission proposal
Suppression of radio interference from industrial, scientific and medical equipment	COM(74)1181 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.3.75)
Plugs and sockets	XI/685/76	Preliminary draft withdrawn, revision in preparation
Textiles		
Textile names	71/307/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.71)
	75/36/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive supplementing 71/307/EEC (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures	72/276/EEC of 17.7.72	Directive (*OJ* 31.7.72)
Quantitative analysis of ternary fibre mixtures	73/44/EEC of 26.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 30.3.73)
Quantitative analysis mixtures of fibres of the same chemical nature	Work started but no papers yet available	
Elimination of foreign matter	Work started but no papers yet available	
Pressure vessels		
General directive	76/767/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Seamless steel gas cylinders	COM(72)1689	Commission proposal
Aerosol dispensers	75/324/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Seamless aluminium alloy gas cylinders	COM(74)966 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Welded uanalloyed steel gas cylinders	COM(74)965 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Unfired pressure vessels of welded steel	XI/584/75	Preliminary draft
Shell boilers for producing steam or hot water	Work started but no papers yet available	
Dangerous substances and preparations		
Classification packaging and labelling of dangerous substances	67/548/EEC of 27.6.67	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.67)
	73/146/EEC of 21.5.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 25.6.73)
	75/409/EEC of 24.6.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
	76/907/EEC of 14.7.76	Commission directive adapting to technical progress 67/548/EEC (*OJ* 30.12.76)
	COM(76)433 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 5.11.76)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Classification, packaging and labelling of pesticides	COM(74)2193 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
Approval and putting into circulation of agricultural pesticides	15.175/VI/69 COM(76)427 FINAL	Preliminary draft Commission proposal
Explosives	13269/III/70	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (solvents)	73/173/EEC of 4.6.73 III/Ex XI/790/76 Rev 4	Directive (*OJ* 11.7.73) Draft amending directive
Classification, packaging and labelling of paints, varnishes, glues and related products *	COM(75)311 FINAL 77/728/EEC of 7.11.77	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.7.75) Directive (*OJ* 28.11.77)
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous products of general use in the home (household preparations)	XI/780/76 XI/1/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
Corrosives	Work started but no papers yet available	
Detergents	73/404/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of anionic surfactants	73/405/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants	XI/315/76	Preliminary draft
Detergents – toxicity	Work in abeyance	
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations	76/769/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain types of asbestos fibre	III/366/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances not covered by original directive 67/548/EEC	III/365/77	Preliminary draft
Lifts and lifting apparatus		
Certification and marking of wire ropes, chains and hooks	73/361/EEC of 19.11.73 76/434/EEC of 13.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Commission directive (*OJ* 8.5.76) Adapting 73/361/EEC to technical progress
Common provisions for lifting and mechanical handling appliances (general directive)	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Tower cranes for building work	XI/276/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Builders' hoists	XI/882/76 Work started but no papers yet available	Preliminary draft
Conveyor-belts	Work started but no papers yet available	
Electrically-operated lifts	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Powered industrial trucks	XI/768/76	Preliminary draft
Machine tools and machines		
Common provisions for the working of metals, wood, paper and other materials	XI/216/74 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Grinding wheels and grinding machines	XI/217/74	Preliminary draft
Portable grinding machines	XI/270/75	Preliminary draft (but now agreed to divide into three separate directives – 9/3, 9/4, 9/5)
Fixed grinding machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Grinding wheels	Work started but no papers yet available	
Woodworking machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Crystal glass		
Crystal glass	69/493/EEC of 15.12.69	Directive (*OJ* 29.12.69)
Oil pipelines		
Oil pipelines (construction)	COM(68)640 FINAL	Proposal withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Precious metals		
Articles made from precious metals	COM(75)607 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.1.76)
Gas appliances		
Safety and control devices for appliances using gaseous fuels	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Instantaneous production of hot water for sanitary purposes	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Cookers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Central heating boilers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Gas governors	Work started but no papers yet available	
Independent space heaters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Fertilisers		
General directive	76/116/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Sampling and methods of analysis	77/535/EEC of 22.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 22.8.77)
Marketing of high nitrogen content ammonium nitrate based fertiliser	COM(75)635 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.1.76)
Gas pipelines		
Gas pipelines (construction)	18.871/III/69	Preliminary draft thought to be withdrawn with oil pipelines (see 11/1)
Fuels		
Problem of the lead content of petrol	COM(73)2050 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.1.74)
Sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	75/716/EEC of 24.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 27.11.75)
Use of fuel-oils with aim of decreasing sulphurous emissions	COM(75)681 FINAL COM(77)407 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76) Commission amending proposal
Rubber and plastics		
Reinforced plastic tanks for carriage of dangerous substances by road	COM(71)1446 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 15.3.72)
Construction materials		
Cement	Work in abeyance	
Ceramic tiles	Work in abeyance	
Flat glass	XI/437/74	Preliminary draft
PVC pipes	Work in abeyance	
Fire resistance	XI/790/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft
Water supply equipment	Work was proposed by the tripartite working group but the project was shelved	
Construction products (Framework directive)	III/1098/77-EN (New item)	Preliminary draft
Building and civil engineering equipment and machines		
General directive Determination of the noise produced by construction plant and equipment) (alteration in title) Permissible sound level for pneumatic concrete-breakers and jackhammers	COM(74)2195 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Permissible sound emission level for tower cranes	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Permissible sound level of grass cutting machines	XI/28/75 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Permissible sound emission level for current generators for welding Permissible sound emission level for current generators for power supply	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Noise emitted by air compressors	ENV/168/77 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
(Site safety)		
Roll-over protective structures	XI/554/75	Preliminary draft
Falling-object protective structures	XI/555/75	Preliminary draft
Dimensions of operators' cabins	XI/556/75	Preliminary draft
Protecting guards and shields	XI/557/75	Preliminary draft
(Road safety)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Tower cranes: safety aspects	Work started but no papers yet received	
Mopeds		
Type approval	COM(72)1645 FINAL COM(73)1732 FINAL	Commission proposal Commission amending proposal
Engines	Work started but no papers yet received	
Noise	Work started but no papers yet received	
Braking devices	XI/710/75	Preliminary draft
Motor cycles		
Type approval	COM(74)2177 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
Permissible sound level and exhaust system	COM(75)634 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
Fuel system integrity	XI/567/75	Preliminary draft
Non-military arms and ammunition	Work started but no papers yet received	
Firefighting equipment		
Portable fire extinguishers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Metal scaffolding		
Working metal scaffolds	XI/34/76	Preliminary draft suspended *sine die*
Packaging materials	Work not yet started	
Educational materials	Work not yet started	
Equipment using ionising rays	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective clothing and equipment		
Protective helmets (industrial)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Safety helmets for motor vehicle drivers and their passengers	XI/227/75	Preliminary draft

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Respiratory protective devices	Work started but no papers yet received	
Industrial safety belts and harnesses	Work started but no papers yet received	
Eye protectors	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective footwear	Work started but no papers yet received	
Boats and their fittings		
Type approval	COM(76)393 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.8.76)
Pleasure craft made of reinforced plastic	XI/592/74	Preliminary draft
Cosmetics		
Cosmetic products	76/768/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Leaching of substances into foodstuffs		
General directive	76/893/EEC of 23.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 9.12.76)
Materials and articles in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	687/VI/73 2637/VI/75	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	688/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs*	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.2.75)
Materials and articles in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs*	3003/VI/74 4235/VI/75 980/VI/77	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(76)680 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.1.77)
Materials and articles in regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs*	2642/VI/76 (New item)	Preliminary draft
Toys		
Toys safety requirements	XI/288/74	Preliminary draft
Noise in the domestic environment	Work started but no papers yet received	

Food-law harmonisation directives

The following is a list of food-law harmonisation directives, which have been adopted or are under discussion in the European Economic Community.

Further information about the directives may be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Room 514, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE, tel. 01-216 6420.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Food		
Cocoa and chocolate products	73/241/EEC of 24.7.73	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.73)
	74/411/EEC of 1.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	74/644/EEC of 19.12.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.74)
	75/155/EEC of 4.3.75	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.3.75)
	76/628/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	4198/VI/76	Preliminary draft
	III/970/77	Preliminary draft
	COM(77)658 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 10.1.78)
Euric acid levels in food	76/621/EEC of 20.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 28.7.76)
Certain sugars	73/437/EEC of 11.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 27.12.73)
	III/797/77	Preliminary draft
Certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk	76/118/EEC of 18.12.75 COM(77)155 FINAL	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76) Commission proposal (*OJ* 25.5.77)
Honey	74/409/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Fruit juices and similar products	75/726/EEC of 17.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 1.12.75)
Natural mineral waters	COM(70)441 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 11.6.70)
Foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses	77/94/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Jams, marmalades, fruit jellies	COM(75)419 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 4.9.75)
Coffee extracts and chicory extracts	77/436/EEC of 27.6.77	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.77)
Labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs	COM(76)107 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 22.4.76)
Tomato products		
tomato concentrates	1821/VI/76	Preliminary draft
preserved tomatoes	1822/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Soft drinks	3306/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Processing and handling of quick frozen foods	III/576/77	Preliminary draft
Vinegar	VI/2710/75	Preliminary draft
Food additives		
Acids, bases and salts	2607/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Antioxidants	70/357/EEC of 13.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	74/412/EEC of 12.8.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
	COM(77)611 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.12.77)
	COM(76)573 FINAL	Commission proposal on specific criteria of purity
Colouring matters	2645 of 23.10.62	Directive (*OJ* 11.11.62)
	65/469/EEC of 25.10.65	Amending directive (*OJ* 26.10.65)
	67/653/EEC of 24.10.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.10.67)
	68/419/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/358/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	76/399/EEC of 6.4.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 26.4.76)
	COM(77)609 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.12.77)
Emulsifiers, stabilisers, thickeners and gelling agents	74/329/EEC of 18.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
	COM(77)304 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.10.77)
	COM(77)344 FINAL	Commission proposal on specific criteria of purity
Flavourings	3394/VI/76	Preliminary draft
	III/1295/77	Preliminary draft
Preservatives	64/54/EEC of 5.11.63	Directive (*OJ* 27.1.64)
	65/569/EEC of 23.12.65	Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.65)
	66/722/EEC of 14.12.66	Amending directive (*OJ* 20.12.66)
	67/427/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	68/420/EEC of 20.12.68	Amending directive (*OJ* 24.12.68)
	70/359/EEC of 13.7.70	Amending directive (*OJ* 18.7.70)
	71/160/EEC of 30.3.71	Amending directive (*OJ* 17.4.71)
	72/2/EEC of 20.12.71	Amending directive (*OJ* 4.1.72)
	72/444/EEC of 26.12.72	Amending directive (*OJ* 31.12.72)
	74/62/EEC of 17.12.73	Amending directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
	74/394/EEC of 22.7.74	Amending directive (*OJ* 30.7.74)
	76/462/EEC of 4.5.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 14.5.76)
	76/629/EEC of 20.7.76	Amending directive (*OJ* 16.8.76)
	COM(77)608 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.12.77)
	65/66/EEC of 26.1.65	Directive on specific criteria of purity for preservatives (*OJ* 9.2.65)
	67/428/EEC of 27.6.67	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 11.7.67)
	76/463/EEC of 4.5.76	Amending directive on purity criteria (*OJ* 14.5.76)
Starches	III/973/77	Preliminary draft
Solvents	2373/VI/76	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs		
General directive	76/893/EEC of 23.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 9.12.76)
Materials and articles in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	1892/VI/75	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	688/VI/73	Proposals in abeyance
Materials and articles in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.2.75)
Materials and articles in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	980/VI/77	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles, which contain vinyl chloride and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(76)680 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.1.77)

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no. 01-215 5870).

Overseas trade news

Substantive phase of Gatt negotiations begins

Following agreement of the council of ministers in Brussels on 17 January the community is ready to enter the substantive phase of the multilateral trade negotiations, which opened in Geneva this week.

Agreement was reached on the basis of a number of working hypotheses which have been assembled in the Gatt, largely as a result of informal consultations between the community, the United States and Japan, and which cover industrial tariffs, safeguards and subsidies and countervailing. As a result of preparatory work carried out mainly in the various groups and sub-groups of the Geneva negotiations, there are also projected 'codes' or other international arrangements covering customs valuation rules, technical barriers to trade, government procurement, import licensing arrangements, dairy products, meat and grains.

As may be seen from the nature of the subjects under negotiation the trade talks cover a wide range. The objective is to devise rules which will govern international trade for the next decade, or rather to adapt the rules which now exist to make them serve this purpose. It follows that there are some fundamental problems to be solved. Whether it will be possible to bridge some of the gaps which currently exist over the way in which these problems should be solved is hard to say, but there is a strong political commitment on behalf of all the main participants to a successful result. As yet no deadline has been set for the conclusion of the trade talks but there is a general desire to conclude them fairly soon, and some are thinking in terms of doing so by the end of July.

Much attention will undoubtedly focus upon industrial tariffs. The community, like the United States and Japan, has agreed to an initial offer, in accordance with a formula devised by Switzerland, which is designed to achieve harmonisation of tariff levels (the higher the tariff, the deeper the tariff cut) and which would produce a weighted average reduction in tariffs of about 40 per cent.

The Americans believe that in order to achieve such a reduction it will be necessary to have greater reductions in some tariff items to balance the items which they will wish to except from the tariff formula. The community for its part does not want to do this; it will need to consider what adjustments to make to its offer to take account of the quality of the offers of others (including their exceptions) and these adjustments would reduce the average level of the finally agreed reduction in the common customs tariff on industrial goods below, perhaps significantly below, the starting figure of 40 per cent.

The tariff cutting formula is likely to be implemented in two tranches, the first of five annual stages and the second, which would be conditional on the general economic situation, of three further annual stages. As examples of how the formula would work a 20 per cent tariff would be reduced to 9 per cent, one of 10 per cent to 6 per cent and one of 5 per cent to 4 per cent over the duration of the two separate periods of phased reductions.

For the UK, and for the community as a whole, the achievement of an effective right to take selective safeguard action against the source of damaging low-cost imports is of central importance. The community sees such selective action as the only way of giving domestic industry the necessary protection against disruptive imports with the minimum possible disturbance of the world trading system as a whole.

Another community objective in the MTNs is to get the Americans to introduce the concept of material injury into their countervailing law, and thus to comply, along with most other developed countries, with the present Gatt rules.

A third community objective is to ensure that common principles of customs valuation are followed in the various contracting parties.

The treatment of agriculture in the negotiations is of great importance to the community's trading partners. It is hoped to work out agreements of a general nature on wheat (and other cereals), meat and dairy products. And on other products reductions in tariffs and non-tariff barriers will be negotiated on a product-by-product basis. Requests on these products were tabled by contracting parties in November. The community has just tabled its initial offer in response to requests received and will be examining the offers which it receives from other countries following its own requests for concessions.

A similar process of 'request and offers' has been used for dealing with those industrial non-tariff measures which are not covered by any of the proposed 'codes' (for example, quantitative restrictions, consular formalities and other miscellaneous items). Once again the community has participated fully in this process and has tabled a number of requests including ones from the more advanced of the developing countries. The community is also committed to finding ways – the other side of the coin – of providing differential and favourable treatment for developing countries, and, in particular, the least developed of them, wherever feasible and appropriate in the MTNs.

The next step will be for countries to study the offers tabled by their negotiating partners. The negotiations will then be carried forward through formal Gatt machinery of official meetings, supplemented as necessary by informal discussions on a bilateral or more general basis. The difficulties between the negotiating countries are considerable and the resolution of these, and the establishment of an agreed basis for international trade for the 1980's, will not be easy.

Multiple entry visas for Poland and Romania

Arrangements for the grant of multiple entry visas have been agreed between Britain and Poland as a result of discussions between the two governments.

Multiple entry visas valid for 12 months or for the period of appointment, whichever is the shorter, will in appropriate cases be granted to the following, and to members of the family forming part of their household, and to their domestic staff: representatives and employees of British companies resident in Poland; and members of the Polish trade organisations resident in the UK; representatives of British Airways resident in Poland; and representatives of the Polish airline resident in the UK.

After consideration of each case on its merits, multiple entry visas will in appropriate cases be granted: valid for up to 12 months to persons engaged in economic co-operation who can show their need to make repeated visits to the UK or Poland; valid for six months to lorry drivers who can show their need to make repeated visits to the UK or Poland. These visas will be valid only when the lorry driver in question is accompanied by his lorry.

Both countries will endeavour to complete the processing of applications which in principle qualify for multiple entry visas within one calendar month.

Identical provisions to those described above have also been agreed between the British government and the government of Romania.

Overseas commercial officers visit Britain

Overseas commercial officers from Panama, Adelaide and Manila are expected to be in this country shortly, when they will be available for discussions.

R. Jackson, first secretary (commercial) in Panama since September 1976, will be available on 24 April; J. Stevenson, commercial officer in Adelaide since 1964, will be available on 17 April; and P. Newman, first secretary (commercial) in Manila since April 1977, will be available on 2 May.

Because commercial officers often have only limited time at their disposal it may not always be possible to fit everyone in. Where it is possible, firms are reminded that the export services and promotions division of the Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate

Hill, London EC4M 7HU who are in close touch with all overseas commerical officers can very often supply advice. Outside London, the regional offices of the Department of Industry, Welsh and Scottish Offices, and the Department of Commerce, Belfast, can also help.

British firms and organisations who wish to meet the officers are asked to write for an appointment, giving full details of the specific export problem and commodities involved. Firms in Northern Ireland should contact the export branch of the Department of Commerce, Belfast; those in Wales the Welsh Office, Cardiff and in Scotland the ScottishOffice, Glasgow. For firms in the eastern region and the London and south eastern region (and any organisation in the other regions who would prefer or be prepared if necessary to meet the officer in London) should write to Tours Section, Department of Trade, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. For all other regions firms should contact the appropriate Department of Industry regional office (exports).

Protectionism 'a dead end' – Catherwood

Those who live by trade must convince fellow citizens that protectionism is a dead end, said British Overseas Trade Board chairman Sir Frederick Catherwood on 19 January.

Trade prospects in 1978

Speaking on trade prospects in 1978 at a luncheon given by the Finnish Trade Guild, he said that protectionism did not provide jobs, but protected some jobs at the expense of a much greater number of other jobs, and protected the declining companies at the expense of those which were expanding and creating jobs. 'It is simply a signal of failure and defeat.'

A kind of lethargy seemed to be settling over international trade, Sir Frederick said. 'The recession has now lasted for four long years and sometimes it seems as if it is to go on for ever.' He wondered if the 30-year boom from the mid-forties until the mid-seventies was an unrepeatable event.

He pointed out that one of the major factors in this boom, was the lowering of tariffs and expansion of trade in Efta, in the European community and the Gatt.

'We are now coming up to another trade round and some of the worst problems have been cleared out of the way. If we believe that we can get the industrial democracies back on the path of expansion, then we must see that this liberal trade policy continues.'

Sir Frederick Catherwood speaking at the Finnish Trade Guild luncheon on 19 January.

New editions of 'Hints to business men' published

Revised editions of the booklets on Italy and Yugoslavia have been published in the *Hints to business men* series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7145-6, or any regional office of the Department of Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8-10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

Specialised exhibition for Baghdad

Baghdad will be the venue for a specialised exhibition from 1 to 10 May 1978 covering the goods imported by the Automobile State Enterprise, Construction Materials Import Company, Chemicals Company, State Machinery Import Company, Steel and Timber Company and the Hand Tool Import Company.

The State Organisation for Capital Goods has said that letters of invitation have been issued to firms who participated in the similar exhibition sponsored by them in August 1977 and to other established suppliers of the state companies concerned. The state organisations would also be interested to hear from other suppliers who might wish to exhibit.

Rental for space is approximately £25 per m^2 indoor and £13 per m^2 outdoor. Stands are the responsibility of the exhibitor and stand representatives should be authorised to negotiate firm orders.

Interested firms should contact State Trade Organisation for Capital Goods, Nidhal Street, PO Box 5948, Lane Opposite Akad Hotel, Baghdad. Tel. 96065, cable: Tresto, telex: 2227 Tresto ik, stating the amount of space required. No closing date has been specified but firms are advised to apply as soon as possible.

British loan to Jamaica . . .

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, signed a £20 million loan agreement with Jamaican Minister of Finance David H. Coore on 17 January. It will cover the purchase of goods for the public sector in Jamaica from Britain, upon which economic development is dependent.

The UK government has taken into account its commitment to play a full and positive role in the successful establishment of a consultative group to provide more effective development assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region. It has been agreed that the UK loan to Jamaica should be repayable over 25 years with a three-year grace period, and with a 6 per cent rate of interest. It is the intention of both governments that the loan should be drawn down rapidly to provide the maximum benefit to Jamaica's balance of payments. It has therefore been agreed that the loan should cover purchases from Britain made by public-sector bodies in Jamaica since 1 November 1976.

. . . irrigation development receives £8.6m aid . . .

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, has approved the provision of a grant of £8.6 million from British aid funds to Pakistan to finance part of a project in Punjab province aimed at improving water use and controlling salinity problems in irrigated agriculture. The project, part of Pakistan's salinity control and land reclamation programme, is likely to cost over £100 million and will be co-funded by the International Development Association of the World Bank and West Germany, as well as by the Pakistan government itself.

At least half of Britain's £8.6 million will be used for the purchase in this country of essential equipment for the project – for remodelling canals, transport and laboratory facilities, and for pumping stations. The remainder will finance the local costs of the civil works associated with the drainage element of the scheme. The Punjab government and Pakistan's Water and Power Development Authority will be responsible for the irrigation aspects of the project on which the British aid is being concentrated.

. . . and over £2m aid for Lesotho's agricultural programme

Mrs Hart has also approved an allocation of up to £2,363,000 of aid funds to assist the Lesotho government, with other donors, in establishing a basic agricultural services programme (Basp) to provide, over five years, a physical and institutional infrastructure for agricultural services in the lowlands and foothills of Lesotho.

The aim of Basp will be to raise the level of farm income in the lowland and foothill areas,

which comprise 75 per cent of the arable acreage of the country, through the provision of access and feeder roads, village tracks, marketing and input supply facilities, agricultural machinery maintenance facilities; to improve Lesotho's overall balance of payments position through export promotion and import substitution; to strengthen manpower and institutional capabilities to ensure the effective provision of infrastructure services; to establish a base for effective implementation of more complex activities nationwide, including land use planning, soil conservation, mixed farming and high-value crop promotion in subsequent stages.

UK aerospace exports to exceed £1,000 million in 1977

Exports of Britain's aerospace industry last year are now assured of establishing a new record of well over £1,000,000,000 – an increase of more than £100 million on 1976, according to figures published by the Society of British Aerospace Companies on 12 January. Aerospace exports of £89,114,000 in November were the fourth highest for any month and nearly £11 million up on that month in 1976, says SBAC. The total for the eleven months of £946,929,000 was £126,490,000 above that at the close of November 1976.

Exports of both aircraft and parts and engines and parts maintained high levels in November, but SBAC points out that a boost to the monthly total was provided by exports of simulator manufactures worth £2.2 million, the second highest for any month last year and by the instrument sector, with overseas deliveries worth over £5.5 million. Exports of aircraft, engines and parts to the United States exceeded £200 million in the 11 months.

Hong Kong buying mission visits UK

A Hong Kong buying mission comprising top executives of department stores and other retail outlets will arrive in Britain on 4 February to shop for consumer goods.

The mission, the second of its kind to visit the UK, will spend two weeks in London and Birmingham. Purchases by the members of last year's mission amounted to £300,000.

For further information contact Derek Dulieu, Overseas Visitors Bureau, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 603.

Chamber to sponsor British companies at Louisville fair

Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce will be sponsoring a group of British companies at the Louisville international woodworking machinery and furniture supply fair in September. The chamber's stand is in the furniture section and the seven companies exhibiting in the group will display products ranging from furniture castors and hardware to automatic buttoning machines.

The fair takes place every two years and has an average of 600 exhibitors from all over the world. The 1976 show was visited by 25 000 buyers from all parts of the United States. A seminar with top speakers from the trade is held concurrently with the fair.

As far as British exhibitors are concerned, the fair has proved to be continuously successful in furthering or introducing new sales and in view of this consistently good record, the British Overseas Trade Board has asked the chamber to organise the British participation on a joint venture basis.

Inward mission from Oman

Invitations are being issued by the British post in Muscat for places on an inward mission from Oman which will take place from 20 to 24 February. The mission will be organised by the Building Centre Group and the British Overseas Trade Board.

British manufacturers, contractors and consultants wishing to receive further information about this mission should apply immediately to Mr W. Bridge, Head of the International Section, The Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London WC1E 7BT, tel. 01-636 1197.

Scottish Council mission sets off for Nigeria

On 29 January a Scottish Council (Development and Industry) trade mission leaves for Nigeria. The 22-member mission will be led by Douglas Hardie, director of H. and A. Scott (Holdings) Ltd, Dundee.

The timing of the mission, following closely after the first Lagos international trade fair (27 November to 11 December), will be to the advantage of participants since the British pavilion at the fair, which involved over 100 UK companies, was a major attraction.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

Amendment to 1654

The following sentences should be inserted at the end of the first paragraph relating to licensing arrangements for China.

'Pro formas for this purpose are available from Import Licensing Branch, and applications will only be dealt with on receipt of correctly completed forms. In response to applications a partial allocation will be made, as quickly as possible, on the basis of past trade returns received in Import Licensing Branch by 10 February 1978.'

In the table relating to newly restricted goods, for the entry relating to tariff heading 61.02, the figure **2** which appears after 'babies' should appear before 'women's' at the beginning of the description.

The quota list for imports from Czechoslovakia should be amended as follows:

Category 9 – the bracket round the tariff headings should be deleted.

Category 13 – Tariff heading ex 61.01 – 'suits of wool' should be inserted at the end of the description. Tariff headings ex 61.03 and ex 61.04 should be bracketed together.

In the quota list for imports from the German Democratic Republic, 'Category 9' should be inserted before tariff heading ex 62.02. In the quota list for imports from Hungary, in Category 11 the bracket round tariff headings ex 61.03, ex 61.04 and ex 61.06 should only apply to tariff headings ex 61.03 and ex 61.04. In the quota list for imports from Poland, in Categories 17 and 18, the bracket round the tariff headings should apply to the tariff headings in category 18 only.

1655: Imports of bananas from the dollar area

To offset expected shortfalls in supplies of fresh bananas to the UK from other sources, a further supplementary quota of 7500 tonnes has been established for imports from the dollar area.

In order to ensure continuity of imports, the supplementary quota will be allocated between existing licence holders, having regard to the use they made of their allocations under the quotas for 1976-77.

Import licences will be issued to importers against their allocations only for those amounts for which they can produce evidence of a firm contract with the overseas supplier. Licences issued under these arrangements will be valid for three months.

As announced in Notice to Importers 1635 (*Trade and Industry*, 23 September 1977) the second stage of 2000 tonnes of the basic quota for fresh bananas from the dollar area will be issued from 1 February 1978.

Import licences will be issued to importers up to the amount which they were allocated for the first stage on production of evidence of a firm contract with the overseas supplier. Applications, on form ILB/A, accompanied by evidence of contract should be sent to reach Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Tropical Foods Division, 29 Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5DD, not later than 28 February 1978.

Inquiries: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tel. 01-828 4366 ext. 1163 or 1355.

Government helps win £100m Hong Kong power station order

A major export order for generating equipment has been won through the combined efforts of government and industry. This article describes the contract and its winning.

A letter of intent for generating equipment worth £100 million for a Hong Kong power station has been issued by the China Light and Power Company and Esso to GEC Turbine Generators. The contract is for two 350 MW turbine generators with associated dual-fired (oil and pulverised coal) boilers and all the mechanical and auxiliary plant and is the largest single order for generating equipment ever placed in the UK.

For the first time ever the Department of Industry took a leading role in the negotiations, which could be said to have started in March 1977 when Sir Lawrence Kadoorie, chairman of China Light and Power met the Prime Minister and Alan Williams, Minister of State at the Department of Industry. He outlined CLP's and Esso's development plans, and said that CLP and Esso hoped that internationally competitive prices would be offered by British manufacturers so that it would be possible for a new company being formed by CLP and Esso to buy British equipment as they had done in the past.

GEC was selected by the department as the lead contractor because it had provided earlier power stations to CLP/Esso and these were working successfully. GEC had also already prepared extensive technical proposals for a new power station. The department appointed Lazards as its financial advisers.

Specific proposals were developed by a small team from GEC, Lazards and the department which liaised closely with the Export Credits Guarantee Department. Mr Williams said that the project demonstrated what could be achieved when government, industry and the city pooled their expertise to deal with a major export opportunity. Officials in the department had, he said, played a full part in the effort which had resulted in this contract for UK industry.

Last September detailed technical and financing proposals (by the end of the negotiations these came to 17 volumes) were put to CLP/Esso in Hong Kong by the Department of Industry. The department had previously arranged for a review of the prices by an independent organisation to satisfy itself that the prices were internationally competitive. Incorporated in the package was an offer of technical assistance from British Electricity International, the international consultancy company of the UK electricity supply industry, because CEGB has extensive experience in operating dual-fired power stations.

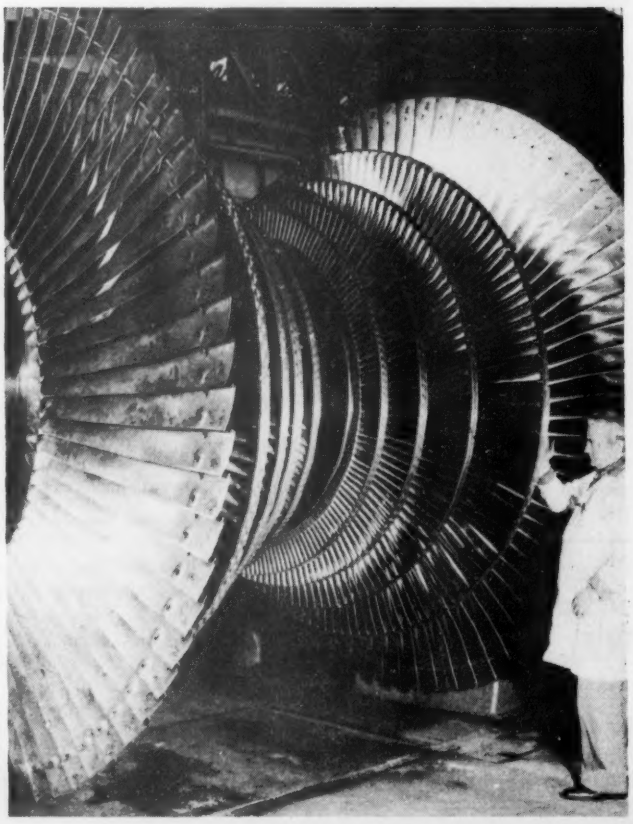
The project will be financed by a US dollar loan which will be arranged and managed by J. Henry Schroder Wagg. The loan will be guaranteed by ECGD.

Between 1300 and 1400 jobs will directly be safeguarded for some three years ahead by this contract, particularly at Renfrew, Dunbarton, Larne and Manchester. Including subcontractors some 2000 jobs will be safeguarded.

This £100 million export order is the first stage of a major development programme by CLP and Esso; the station will be designed for an ultimate capacity of 1400 MW. GEC anticipates that formal contracts for this first stage will be signed by the end of March.

The government hopes that this order – and the UK's involvement in the Hong Kong mass transit system – will draw this important market to the attention of British exporters. 'The opportunities for increased trade are there – and it is up to British industry to seize them,' Mr Williams said.

The low pressure steam turbine rotor of the type to be built for Hong Kong.



JAPAN

DISSATISFIED WITH THE LIMITED RESULTS ACHIEVED THROUGH AGENTS AND DISTRIBUTORS?

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES await enterprising British manufacturers in the form of joint venture operations, wholly owned subsidiaries, branch sales operations and technological licence agreements in Japan. But in order to ensure that the best possible advantage is taken of such opportunities, it is absolutely essential to appoint a local representative possessing the necessary expertise and connections to act on your behalf. As Advisers and Consultants with years of experience of partner hunting and negotiations with Japanese manufacturers in the above sectors, we are pleased to offer our specialised services, which also include market research.

G. INOUYE, Managing Director
RAYDEN (JAPAN) LTD, Shokin Building, 11-12, 8-chome, Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Tel: 571-8023/5. Telex: J26847 (Raydenco). Cables: Raydenco, TOKYO

Helping to take the sting out of market entry

Smaller companies seeking a start in overseas markets are not only faced with the problem of raising sufficient finance, they are also gambling to some extent with the prospect of failure. An experimental scheme launched yesterday by the British Overseas Trade Board is designed to help smaller and medium-sized firms to cope with the financial risk and financing problems associated with a venture to develop a new export market. The terms of the new scheme, known as the market entry guarantee scheme, plus details of how to apply, are published below.

BOTB's market entry guarantee scheme (MEGS) was foreshadowed last October in the government's announcement of a package of measures to assist small firms. The scheme owes its origin to the industrial strategy programme and suggestions put forward by the NEDC sector working parties, and it is open to firms in manufacturing industry, who are exporting a tangible product manufactured in the UK [1].

In approved cases, the scheme will contribute 50 per cent of the eligible costs of the market venture in return for a levy on sales receipts which is intended to recover the contributions with a commercial rate of return on the scheme's investment. If, by the end of the agreed venture period, sales have not materialised as expected, then no further levy payments are required and the firm and the scheme will share the loss. For this guarantee, the firm pays the scheme an annual premium.

The scheme is being operated on a trial basis for two years with about £2 million available over that period (agreements with the scheme will invariably extend over a longer period). Assistance under the scheme is discretionary and will be offered so as to provide a spread of assistance by size of project, product and market. Applicants will be expected to put forward a package of proposals which constitute a well-planned marketing programme for the development of an additional export market and to demonstrate their capability to carry this out. They must clearly show that their objective is to obtain a substantial increase in the volume of their exports over the period of the venture and thereafter, to the benefit of the UK.

Firms mounting a marketing attack on a new overseas market on behalf of either a single manufacturer or group of manufacturers can be considered. Applications from such companies, including export merchants, etc, will have to show that they are acting as the manufacturer's sales organisation and are under firm contract to the manufacturing firm over an acceptable period. In such cases, the manufacturer(s) may also be required to be contractually liable to the scheme for the levy on sales and satisfactory arrangements to ensure that eligible costs are incurred solely in support of the products on whose sales the levy is charged will have to be agreed.

[1] The standard industrial classification (prepared by the Central Statistical Office and published by HMSO) will be used as a guide, and SIC orders III to XIX will normally be accepted as 'manufacturing'.

Eligible projects and costs

The scheme is aimed at helping firms with the implementation phase of a new export market entry venture and not with the market research or exploration phase [2]. Proposals for assistance must describe a well-planned sales attack based on a substantial examination of the market. Single elements, such as a publicity campaign on its own or a visiting programme in isolation, will not be eligible. Similarly, the venture must involve the continuity of sales in the new market and not individual sales/projects. The market should be defined in terms of sales area, using national or local boundaries, and by product; and the eligible costs must relate exclusively to this product and market combination. A new market is one in which the firm has not been selling or in which it has some sales but plans a major increment involving substantial new costs.

To be eligible for support, costs must broadly be overhead costs which are written off as incurred – not capital investment, for example – and are largely irrecoverable except in the sense of recovery from margin on sales (for categories of eligible costs, see page 178). They must not be directly related to the manufacture and distribution of the product (manufacturing costs, transport costs and agents' commission are not eligible). To be eligible, costs must be incurred solely and directly in relation to the venture and its defined product and market combination. Costs already incurred by a firm in respect of activities prior to the date of application are not eligible, nor can continuing costs for existing facilities be considered.

A firm's cost of participating in an export marketing activity which has been supported by other sources of public funds will not be eligible. The nature of eligible costs are such that, in most cases, assets are not created. However, the scheme will have a right to a proportion of the proceeds of sale of any assets to whose costs it has contributed – office equipment and cars, for example – if the scheme does not recover all contributions with interest.

[2] Other sources of assistance are available for this phase and potential applicants who have not completed this phase should seek guidance from BOTB offices (see page 178).

Operating the scheme

A proposal put forward by a firm will be studied by BOTB's MEGS Unit and, if an offer of assistance is made and accepted, then an agreement will be signed. This agreement will include a definition of the product(s) and market area, the planned eligible costs in each year under agreed headings, the length of the investment period and the subsequent recovery period and the rate of levy on sales receipts.

For each year of the investment period, the firm pays the scheme 3 per cent of the scheme's 50 per cent contribution to the planned eligible costs for that year as a premium in respect of the guarantee which provides for contributions not having to be fully repaid if the venture does not succeed. For each year of the investment period, the scheme pays the firm 50 per cent of those eligible costs actually incurred under each heading, but the total contribution in each year cannot be more than 50 per cent of the total planned eligible costs.

For each year of both the investment period and the recovery period, or until the scheme has recovered its contributions with a commercial rate of interest, the firm pays the scheme the agreed rate of levy on all actual sales receipts for the defined market/product(s) combination. The length of the investment and subsequent recovery periods and the rate of levy will be set so that there is a good expectation that the scheme will recover its contributions with a commercial rate of return before the end of the recovery period. If the end of the recovery period is reached before the scheme has made full recovery on this basis, then no further levy payments are required.

Assistance limits

The scheme's contributions to eligible costs for one venture cannot be more than £100,000 and must be a minimum of £20,000. The investment period cannot be longer than five years and the recovery period will normally be at least as long as the investment period.

There are no limits on the size of firm or size of project but the scheme is intended for smaller and medium-sized firms and the £100,000 limit on contributions and the fact that the levy is charged on all sales receipts in the defined market makes the scheme less suitable for new market-entry programmes with eligible costs over £200,000.

Financial arrangements

The premium for the first year must be paid within one month of the date of agreement and then within three months of the start of each year of the investment period. Contributions to eligible costs will be payable by the scheme in respect of each year of the investment period

and will normally be made when the necessary financial statement for the year has been received and evaluated. Interim payments can be considered. The levy due on sales receipts is payable within three months of the end of each year of the investment and recovery periods until it ceases. During the investment period, the levy due will normally be netted off the contributions to eligible costs.

The firm will be required to provide certificated returns of costs incurred and sales receipts for the venture, signed by a responsible officer of the company and validated by an independent accountant. The contributions to eligible costs by the scheme do not create a debt or liability in the normal sense and no security or collateral is required (the firm will be required to give evidence of its financial viability in the proposal). The levy is an agreed rate of levy on sales receipts (normally as invoiced) and is not considered as a direct repayment of the contributions to eligible costs.

In respect of each year's trading (or when interim payments are made), the previous balance will be brought forward, the interest calculated for the period and the latest payment of contributions added in, the latest levy payment deducted, and the new outstanding balance carried forward. The interest rate to be used will be 2½ per cent above a weighted average of the clearing banks' base rate rounded to the nearest ½ per cent for the period in question.

A firm will be entitled to withdraw from the scheme at the end or middle of any year having given three months' notice, on condition that it pays at the withdrawal date a levy equal to all contributions to date, less any previous levy payments, with interest. There are no restrictions on firms withdrawing from the venture or any particular element of it but there will be a requirement to give notice of any significant changes of plans.

The levy on sales will continue on the agreed basis even though the venture may effectively have been abandoned. If a firm incurs in any year of the investment period less than 25 per cent of the planned eligible costs for that year, then the government may at its discretion terminate the agreement at the end of that year making no further contributions and recovering no further levy.

Both contributions to costs and levy on sales receipts will be planned and dealt with in sterling terms and the agreement will specify the procedure for conversion from foreign currencies.

In general for tax purposes, the scheme's contributions will be treated as reducing the firm's expenditure in respect of which they are paid, and the premium for the guarantee and levy payments will be treated as allowable deductions.

Application forms

Application forms can be obtained from Export Services and Promotions Division, at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, or the export sections of the Department of Industry's regional offices, the Welsh Office Industry Department in Cardiff, the Scottish Office in Glasgow, the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce in Belfast and from British Overseas Trade Board (MEGS Unit), Department of Trade, Room 707, Monsanto House, 10-18 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0NQ.

MEGS – CATEGORIES OF ELIGIBLE COSTS

Overseas office accommodation: rental; property and contents insurance; maintenance; cost of services; local property taxes; office equipment and consumable supplies; purchase and running costs, or rental, of cars; where premises are purchased not rented, the lesser of interest charges on the capital cost or an imputed rent will be considered for eligibility.

Staff costs: for firm's overseas-based administration, sales or warehouse staff: salaries; employment taxes; expenses (excluding entertainment); recruitment and relocation costs; costs of the firm's technical support staff are only eligible if they are not part of the after-sales service and maintenance requirements and their services are not charged to the customer.

Training: training in the selling and servicing of the product(s) of overseas-based staff including non-company staff (eg agents).

Travel and expenses: travel and subsistence expenses for the firm's overseas-based staff; and for home-based staff when visiting the defined market in connection with the venture; entertainment costs are not eligible.

Sales promotion: advertising; publicity; sales literature (specific to the defined market); product demonstration.

Costs of holding stock: the term stock covers both the product and its spare parts; costs of showrooms and storage facilities under similar headings to those for office accommodation; transport costs for the product or spare parts are not eligible; financing of stock, including interest charges, is not eligible nor is stock loss due to deterioration, obsolescence or other causes.

Commercial and legal costs: legal costs of setting up the overseas operation and external audit costs; costs/fees for patents, licences, trademarks, testing and approval of product to necessary local standards.

Overseas trade export services

Air forwarding company introduces new service

Giltspur Airfreight, the air forwarding company of Giltspur Bullens Freight, partners with Lamprecht Aircargo, the airfreight organisation of the Swiss Lamprecht Transport Group, have started Aircargo Two – a two-way system between the UK and Switzerland. The service runs between Southend and Basle airports. Both airports are twinned by the similarity of their structures which make simple procedures possible. The new element in Aircargo Two is the door-to-door concept built into the published rates.

Use is made of scheduled flights from Southend and Basle with pre-arranged bookings for specific quantities of freight, with the service operating as frequently as 10 times a week. Lamprecht operates from Basle airport, with other locations at Geneva airport and Zurich and provides a collection service all through Switzerland, parts of France and Germany. Giltspur Airfreight has seven airfreight depots and 17 locations with sister companies throughout the UK. The UK has been divided into seven zones coinciding with the seven airfreight operations with imported consignments using Giltspur's own transport.

Since the initial trial runs of the service in September 1977, the volume of traffic carried has increased by an average of 40 per cent every month. The current monthly consignments as of January 1978 exceeds 100 and includes a diverse range of goods from watch parts to anti-freeze.

Further information: circle 328

New Bidston Line container service to the Gulf

Bidston Line has started a fortnightly container service between the UK and the Gulf. It offers general cargo capacity for full-load movements in 20 ft and 40 ft ISO containers, plus refrigerated units for shipment of foodstuffs and other perishable commodities. Less-than-container load traffic for Sharjah will also be carried.

Managers of Bidston Line's new container service are Vogt and Maguire Ltd of Liverpool and London, which has responsibility for sales, marketing and transport operations in the UK. Operating between Felixstowe and Port Khalid, Sharjah, UAE, the Bidston Line service provides connecting land and sea feeder-services to destinations throughout the Gulf, including the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Iraq, Iran and Oman. UK/Sharjah port-to-port sailing time is 15 to 16 days, using Meredith Shipping Line's vessels *Roro Dania* and *Grey Master*.

Container transportation and cargo delivery in the Middle East will be controlled by Meredith Shipping Gulf of Sharjah, which has

a 40 000 sq ft customs-bonded compound, near to Port Khalid's modern dock and cargo-handling facilities.

Further information: circle 329

Lep produces eastern Europe travel booklet

Lep Travel has produced a booklet giving comprehensive details of the company's inclusive travel arrangements to countries within eastern Europe. The 24-page booklet will be useful for businessmen and visitors participating in the increasing number of trade fairs and conferences taking place in eastern Europe. In most instances a single telephone call or letter to any Lep travel office (listed on the back page of the booklet) will be sufficient to book travel plans.

Further details and copies of the Lep Travel eastern Europe 1978 booklet can be obtained from Lep Travel Ltd, Eastern Europe Department, Sunlight Wharf, Upper Thames Street, London EC4P 4AD, tel. 01-248 5011/20, telex 887711, or any Lep travel office.

Further information: circle 330

Satellite will provide better links to 43 countries

Improved telephone, data-transmission and telex links between the UK and 43 countries will result from a new high-capacity communications satellite launched on 6 January.

The Intelsat IVA satellite, with a capacity of 6000 simultaneous telephone conversations plus tv links will serve countries in the Indian Ocean region – from the Middle East to Australia and from Korea to Zambia.

The new satellite – costing £25 million – will be brought into service in about mid-1978.

The new satellite will replace a smaller-capacity Intelsat IV that has provided service to the Indian Ocean region since mid-1975. This will later be moved to a new position over the Pacific Ocean to augment service in that region. A second Intelsat IVA satellite to serve the Indian Ocean region is planned for later in the year to provide back-up service.

Further information: circle 331

Expansion of Sumburgh airport planned

The Civil Aviation Authority is proposing to build a new terminal for oil-related traffic at Sumburgh airport, at a cost of about £10 million. The authority is also to spend a further £½ million in 1978 on providing more aircraft parking space.

The proposal to build the new terminal was discussed by the Sumburgh airport consultative committee on 26 January, at which the principal air operators were represented. The major problem at Sumburgh is that the airport is built on a narrow promontory with one runway built out into the North Sea at one end and into the Atlantic at the other, with surrounding hills and inlets. Consequently there is a lack of space to extend the existing terminal area. The CAA believes it is necessary to open up the Wilsness area of the airport for a completely new and additional terminal facility to cater solely for oil-related traffic.

Figures supplied recently for the first time to the CAA by the UK Offshore Operators Association show that their members expect passenger and aircraft movements for oil-related traffic to go on rising over the next few years. The association believes that the level of activity will then flatten out, but that it could well continue at a high level for the next 25 years.

Forecasts of traffic at the airport necessarily depend on the information supplied by the oil operators and airlines. The actual growth of traffic, however, has outstripped these forecasts because the industry did not foresee the substantial increase in the size of the labour force on the rigs and platforms or the more frequent turn-rounds of crews.

The CAA is proposing to increase the landing charge for helicopters at Sumburgh from 1 April. For example, the current landing charge of £26 for an S61 helicopter would rise to £45. The additional revenue is to meet additional operating costs and to cover the 1978 £½ million development programme. The UK 00A and the principal helicopter operators have also been alerted that further increases will be required if the necessary planning and financial approvals are received for the proposed new terminal.

Further information: circle 332

International Express starts trailer departments to southern Germany

International Express has announced an agreement with Allgemeine setting up Transportgesellschaft, ATEGE, in Stuttgart and Munich setting up the inaugural trailer departures for both import and export services from Birmingham and London to southern Germany on 30 January.

Further information: circle 333

Constantine Forwarding appoints new agent in Wuppertal

Gerlach & Co, GmbH will now represent Constantine Forwarding Ltd, Birmingham. Gerlach & Co, GmbH, is a sister company of the Netherlands Gerlach Transport Organisation established in 1881 and has its headquarters in Wuppertal, together with a comprehensive transport depot and distribution centre. Full customs clearance facilities are available at the depot.

Further information: circle 334

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

WATER, AIR and LIFE

A Trade Fair on the theme of Environmental Pollution Control

IRKUTSK, (USSR) 18-24 June 1978

Sponsored by the Soviet Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Applications are invited from Exhibitors in the following fields:
—Apparatus and monitoring devices used in the control of water, air and noise pollution
—Disposal and conversion of waste products
—Energy conservation

Soviet visitors to the Fair will include:

Delegates from the Soviet Academy of Sciences; representatives from Central Purchasing organisations; from the Foreign Trade Ministry and Gossplan; from the economic ministries and town councils of the various Soviet Republics; engineers and business managers responsible for waste disposal and treatment in industry, agriculture and stockbreeding.

Latest date for applications: 15 March 1978

Any inquiries should be addressed to: G. A. Michel, 10 Norland Place, London W11 4QG, tel: 01-727 3844

Foreign participation to the Fair organised by: Office Publicitaire de France, 2 rue de Sèze, 75009 Paris Tel: 073-7440 or 742-2719 Telex 210972

Overseas trade country data

Argentina

Duty amendments. By resolution 988/77 of 7 October 1977, the Ministry of Economy has changed various duties in chapter 84. The new duties are as follows:

84.11.02.03 50%	84.11.02.04 50%	84.17.01.02 50%
84.18.02.02 50%	84.21.01.90 50%	84.21.03.90 50%
84.24.01.01 50%	84.24.01.02 50%	84.24.01.03 50%
84.24.01.04 50%	84 24.01.05 50%	84.24.01.06 50%
84.24.01.07 50%	84.24.01.08 50%	84.24.01.09 50%
84.24.01.10 50%	84.24.01.11 50%	84 24.01.12 50%
84.24.01.13 50%	84.24.01.99 50%	84.24.02.01 50%
84.24.02.02 50%	84.24.02.03 50%	84.24.02.04 50%
84.24.02.05 50%	84.24.02.06 50%	84.24.02.99 50%
84.24.03.01 50%	84.24.03.02 50%	84.24.03.99 50%
84.24.04.00 60%	84.31.00.01 50%	84.34.00.57 60%
84.59.90.90 50%	84.61.02.99 55%	84.63.01.01 55%
84.63.01.02 55%	84.63.01.99 55%	

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Australia

Spanners. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 7 October 1977, reported that the Australian government had made a reference to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report as to whether temporary protection should be accorded the local industry against imports of certain non-adjustable spanners falling within tariff item 82.03.200. It has now been announced that the government has accepted the TAA report which recommended that no urgent action is necessary to protect the local industry against imports of these goods.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1014/77

Spectacle and sunglass frames. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 14 October 1977, reported that the Australian government had made a reference to the Temporary Assistance Authority (TAA) for inquiry and report as to whether temporary protection should be accorded the local industry against imports of spectacle and sunglass frames (tariff item 90.03.100). It has now been announced that the government has accepted the TAA report which recommended that no urgent action is necessary to protect the local industry against imports of these goods.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1007/77

Anti-dumping: phthalic anhydride. An application has been received by the Australian government from the sole local manufacturer of phthalic anhydride for anti-dumping action to be taken against imports of this product from UK, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and the Philippines.

Preliminary inquiries by the Australian government substantiates on a prima facie level the local manufacturer's claim that his sales and prices of phthalic anhydride are being seriously affected by imports from the sources mentioned. As a consequence the Australian customs representative in London will be requested to carry out all necessary inquiries to establish normal values for this product in the UK.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 36493/2

Spirits, spirituous beverages etc. The Industries Assistance Commission has now announced that it is in a position to proceed with its inquiry into the long-term assistance requirements in respect of spirits, spirituous beverages etc. The public hearings will be held as follows: 9th Floor, AMP Building, 1 King Street, Adelaide, commencing on 13 February at 9.30 am. Public Inquiry Room, 16th Floor, 59 Goulburn Street, Sydney, commencing on 20 February at 9.30 am.

Questionnaires have been sent to all witnesses who gave evidence at the earlier hearings. Any other persons intending to submit evidence should inform The Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2000 of their intention as soon as possible.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1533/77

Luggage, fork lift trucks. After consideration of the Temporary Assistance Authority's report the Australian government has announced the following changes in import duties with effect from 12 January 1978: CCCN 42.02.900 – Rigid and soft-sided luggage – the general and preferential rates of duty have both been changed to 55 per cent. CCCN 87.07.190 – Work trucks with lifting capacity at 600 mm, load centres of 1500 kg and over, but less than 4000 kg (not battery operated) excluding parts and pedestrian-controlled non-rider types, there will be an additional specific rate of duty of $2,500 per vehicle. In both cases the additional duty is to apply for 18 months pending receipt and consideration by the government of the Industry Assistance Commission's reports on the long-term assistance needs of the respective industries.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Barbados

Cotton furnishings. The Barbados authorities have announced that import licences are now required for the following goods:

Tariff no	Description of goods
62.05	Woven wall hangings of twine (cotton); woven place mats of cotton

Inquiries from British exporters about this notice should be addressed to OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Brazil

Tariff alterations to heading 87.02 (motor vehicles). The Brazilian Nomenclature Council, in resolutions 34 and 35, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 20 and 28 December 1977, made alterations to the Brazilian customs tariff for heading 87.02. The revised headings are as follows:

Tariff item	Description
87.02.01.00	Passenger vehicles, sports cars, crew-cab pick-ups, mixed use pick-ups, utility vehicles recreational vehicles, vans and other mixed use vehicles:
01	With motor up to 100 CV gross (SAE)
02	With motor over 100 CV gross (SAE)
87.02.02.00	Competition cars
87.02.05.00	Vehicles of sub-heading 01.00, CKD whether or not complete
01	Of item 87.02.01.01
02	Of item 87.02.01.02
87.02.06.00	Vehicles of sub-heading 02.00, CKD whether or not complete

Decree-law 1588, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 20 December 1977, established duty rates for these new headings, and decree-law 1589, published on the same date, which extended the previous temporary duty increases of decree-laws 1334, 1364 and 1421 until 30 June 1979, gave the following duty rates:

Tariff item/Description	Duty rate
87.02.01.01	
With motor up to 100 CV gross (SAE)	185%
87.02.01.02	
With motor over 100 CV gross (SAE)	205%
87.02.02.00	
Competition cars	85%
87.02.05.01	
Of item 87.02.01.01	185%
87.02.05.02	
Of item 87.02.01.02	205%
87.02.06.00	
Vehicles of sub-heading 02.00, CKD, whether or not complete	85%

Customs Policy Council resolution 3069, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 20 December 1977, established reference prices for motor vehicles as follows:

Tariff item/Description	Reference price US$ per unit cif
87.02.01.01	
With motor up to 100 CV gross (SAE)	
Weighing up to 800 kg inclusive	5 000.00
Weighing 800-1000 kg inclusive	6 000.00
Weighing 1000-1600 kg inclusive	13 000.00
Weighing over 1600 kg	14 000.00
87.02.01.02	
With motor over 100 CV gross (SAE):	
Weighing up to 800 kg inclusive	5 000.00
Weighing 800-1000 kg inclusive	6 000.00
Weighing 1000-1600 kg inclusive	13 000.00
Weighing over 1600 kg	14 000.00
87.02.04.99	
Four-wheel drive jeeps with or without power take-off	5 000.00

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Tariff amendments on natural calcium phosphates. Customs Policy Council resolution 3068, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 20 December 1977, increased the import duty on unmilled natural calcium phosphates, under tariff heading 25.10.01.00, from 0 per cent to 30 per cent.

Resolution 3067, published in the *Diario Oficial* of the same date, granted duty exemption on natural calcium phosphates, natural aluminocalcic phosphates, apatite and phosphated chalk, all unmilled, under tariff heading 25.10.01.00, provided that the importer can show that he has bought an amount of the domestic product equal to that he intends to import in terms of P_2O_5 content. Unmilled phosphated chalk is removed from the provisions of resolution 3049 and 2856.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty reduction on watch parts. Customs Policy Council resolution 3065, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 20 December 1977, reduced the import duty on parts for watches of tariff heading 91.01, classified under tariff number 91.11.02.00, from 45 per cent to 15 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Chile

Alcoholic beverages. The Chilean Ministry of Finance has issued decree law, 2057, published on 12 December, 1977 which reduces from 1 January, 1978 the VAT surcharge affecting imports of alcoholic beverages, including whisky, gin, vodka and vermouth. The tax, which is calculated on the cif value plus ad-valorem duty, has been reduced from 40 per cent to 30 per cent. No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Colombia

Suspension of imports. The Colombian Governing Council of Foreign Trade has now extended the suspension of imports of cars with engines of more than six cylinders to include the import of jeeps. The import of jeeps with cabs is forbidden. Furthermore import licences will not be granted for automobiles of a basic price with equipment of less than US$5,000 fob factory country of origin. This restriction does not apply to imports made by official entities, the diplomatic service and similar agencies.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Fiji

Import licensing of motor vehicles. The Fiji Customs and Excise Department has announced, with effect from 15 December 1977, that an import licence will be necessary to import passenger motor cars and vehicles (CCCN 87.02.00.03 and 87.02.00.04), goods vehicles (CCCN 87.02.00.05) and earth-moving equipment and tractors (CCCN 84.23.00.00 and 87.01.00.09). Licences for diesel passenger motor cars of engine capacity over 2200 cc and non-diesel motor cars of engine capacity over 2000 cc and all earth moving equipment will be conditional to sale being made to authorised purchasers. This 'authority to purchase' should be obtained at the same time as the licence. Import licences will only be issued to individuals for private motor cars if imported by a returning resident who has owned the car for at least one year or by a person taking up initial permanent residence in Fiji who has owned the car for at least six months. Commercial importation will be allowed within the total number set by the minister for one year – dealers will be allocated separate quotas to end on 31 December of the year of allocation.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Greece

Import of parts and accessories for hothouses. Metal constructions, equipment and components, instruments and non-perishable goods which are used in the construction of or are contained in hothouses are now exempt from duty and all taxes which would normally be applicable on importation.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 439.

Iraq

Resolution 1215 of 1977. The Iraq revolutionary command council has issued the following decree: As from 14 December 1977 the following are not allowed to work for private Iraqi companies or foreign companies operating in Iraq: former ministers, undersecretaries, heads of state organisations, director generals (or any equivalent grades) and army officers. It is also necessary to obtain the permission of the RCC for any of these persons to own or part-own a commercial enterprise. Individuals in the above categories, already employed or owning a commercial enterprise, have three months to apply for an exemption. The penalty for disobeying this resolution is three to five years imprisonment. The full text of the resolution can be obtained from CRE 5, Room 305, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Israel

Surcharge amendments. Items falling under CCCN 69.07 and 69.08 have been deleted from the Emergency (Rate of Compulsory Payment) Order, 1977 and will therefore no longer be subject to a surcharge.

The surcharge on the following goods falling under 84.06 or 84.08 has been reduced from 20 per cent to 12 per cent:

Motors of a nominal power exceeding 500 hp but not exceeding 3000 hp which are proved to the satisfaction of the Director General of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism that they are (i) not intended for the production of electricity or that they are intended for the production of electricity for current supply not as a substitute to electricity supply which can be received from an electricity supplier (ii) of a kind which are not manufactured in Israel and cannot be a substitute to such motors manufactured in Israel.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Pesticides in foodstuffs. The Israeli authorities have issued a booklet entitled *Pesticide Residue Tolerances in Israel*, which is updated to November 1977. It details the maximum proportion of pesticide residue permitted in foodstuffs. Copies are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Italy

Customs clearance of textile and iron and steel products. A ministerial decree of 5 January 1978, published in *Gazzeta Ufficiale*, 8, 9 January 1978 establishes that as from 10 January 1978 all products (excluding those already en route and in customs, under CCCN 73.01, 73.02, 73.08, 73.09, 73.10, 73.11, 73.12, 73.13, 73.14, 73.15 and 73.18 can only be imported through customs posts at Bari, Brescia, Genoa and Trieste. Products under CCCN 55.05, 55.09, 56.07, 58.04, 60.03, 60.04, 60.05, 61.01, 61.02, 61.03, 61.05, 62.02, 63.01 and 63.02 can only be cleared through customs posts at Bergamo, Biella Prato, Venice, Varese and Civitavecchia. Copies of the decree will be available shortly.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Kuwait

Foodstuffs and materials used with food and drinks. The Kuwait Municipality with the approval of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Public Health under decision 1447/77 has introduced standard specifications for:

KSS no.	Description
27-1972	Hard biscuits
32-1972	Ice cream
33-1973	Wrapping paper and paper bags
42-1973	Labelling of prepackaged foods
43-1973	Wheat flour
44-1973	Carbonated beverages
46-1973	Edible common salt and table salt
35-1974	Polyethylene films, used for wrapping and for similar purposes
47-1974	Methods of testing for wheat flour
82-1974	Tehena
83-1974	Halawa Tehenia confectionery
84-1974	Vinegar
85-1974	Pickles
90-1974	Methods of testing pickles
89-1975	Methods of testing vinegar
49-1976	Disposable plastic cups and containers made of plastic and used for packing beverages, milk products and similar purposes

Copies of the above mentioned specifications showing an English index to the specification but Arabic text will be available for inspection in Room E03 at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, for a period of 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. A loan copy will be available on request at the end of the inspection period.

Inquiries from British exporters, which should specify the standard specification in which they are interested, may be addressed to OTAR, 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420.

Malta

Import licensing control. The Malta *Government Gazette* 13 452, of 13 January 1978, carried legal notice 5 of 1978 amending the Supplies and Services Act 1947. This adds, with immediate effect, 'Filigree works of any material', previously only 'Filigree works of gold or silver', to the list of goods requiring a special licence for importation.

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Import licensing control. The Malta *Government Gazette* 13 438, 16 December 1977, carried legal notice 155 of 1977 amending the Supplies and Services Act 1947. This adds, with immediate effect, 'Fungicides and pesticides for agricultural use in wettable powder and dry powder form' to the list of goods requiring a specific import licence.

No further information is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Netherlands

Industrial property. Decrees 619, 620 and 621 were published on 29 November 1977. These decrees relate to the coming into operation of the Kingdom Patent Law of 12 January 1977 and the associated patent regulations.

Copies of these decrees, together with an unofficial translation, are available for public inspection at the Science Reference Library (Holborn Division), Chancery House, Lower Ground Floor, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AY.

Tobacco and turnover tax. A law dated 21 December 1977, Staatsblad 703, published on 29 December 1977 increases taxes on tobacco products and also increases turnover tax (VAT) on certain energy products. Copies of this decree in Dutch are available. An English translation should be available shortly.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Nigeria

Invoices. Government notice 1297, published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Official Gazette*, 13 October 1977, amends, with effect from 1 November 1977 the invoice requirements for the import of motor vehicles. Separate invoices should be completed for each model of vehicle in a consignment, irrespective of the number of vehicles.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473/462.

Fire at Lagos main post office. Further to *Trade and Industry*, 13 January 1978, page 72, the Nigerian postal administration has informed all member countries of the Universal Postal Union that there has been no destruction of parcel post or ordinary mail. There has, however, been some destruction of registered mail addressed to post office boxes numbered 1 to 2000, Lagos. Firms who may have mail in transit to these box numbers are advised to send further copies.

Import licensing amendment. Information has been received from the British high commission that with effect from 11 January 1978 malt drinks are to be made subject to import licence procedures. On 12 January a concession was announced for drinks already in transit. Ships conveying malt drinks must arrive before 25 January and must notify the Department of Customs and Excise and Nigerian Ports Authority on arrival. Shipments arriving after this date will not be released unless they were made on or before 11 January and importers produce authenticated bills of lading and acceptable evidence of the ship's movements before and after the date on the bills of lading.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473.

Norway

Safety regulations for tractors. The Norwegian authorities have issued new rules relating to safety regulations for tractors. These detail, *inter alia* directions on safety guards for the driver, operating controls and brakes.

British exporters may obtain an unofficial translation of the above regulations, on loan.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Pakistan

Tariff changes. The government of Pakistan has announced various tariff changes aimed at making local industry more competitive to imports and to utilise domestic manufacturing capacity to greater advantage.

The items are as follows:

CCCN	Description
ex 39.02	PVC resin
51.01 }	Yarn of man-made fibres
51.03 }	
56.01	Man-made fibres
56.02	Continuous filament tow
56.04	Man-made fibres
56.05 }	Yarn of man-made fibres
56.06 }	
73.10	Wire rods
73.29	Bicycle chains
73.31	Wire nails, tacks and panel pins
73.32	Nuts and bolts
84.01	Boilers excluding those of 12 tonnes or less per hour steam evaporating capacity except those imported as an integral part of plant and machinery for installation in underdeveloped areas
84.38	Textile spindles

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 420/475/7062.

Portugal

Imports of CKD Motor vehicles. Portuguese *Diario da Republica*, 290, of 17 December 1977 contained portaria No. 762/77, which establishes quotas for the imports of CKD motor vehicles of up to 2000 kg by weight for the period 17 February to 31 December 1978. The quotas (fixed in escudos) are as follows:

Fiat	473 470	Volkeswagen	101 291
Renault	376 676	BMW	64 297
Peugeot	323 546	Mazda	37 740
BLMC	320 898	Honda	34 100
Citroen	296 699	Mercedes	27 926
Toyota	286 604	Subaru	20 501
Ford	266 921	Alfa Romeo	9 891
Datsun	230 830	Audi	7 953
General Motors	230,820	Daihatsu	4 069
Chrysler	110 517		

The main features of the regulation are as follows: the last 20 per cent of an assembler's quota can only be utilised to the extent that he exports automotive products manufactured in Portugal. Quotas can be exceeded by the amount of exports of motor components, kits, built-up cars, accessories or other products purchased by the overseas supplier of the CKD kits sold to Portugal; quotas of CKD kits can also be exceeded if the quota of built-up vehicles is reduced; an additional quota can be granted when new investments are made in the Portuguese automotive industry; ambulances, fire engines and certain other specialised vehicles are not subject to quota restrictions.

Inquiries: OTAR tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

Seychelles

Industrial property. A supplement to the *Official Gazette*, 27 December 1977, published the Trade Marks Decree (Commencement) Order 1977. The decree came into operation on 4 January 1978. The supplement also contained the trade mark regulations. This sets out the fees and procedures concerning registration of trade marks, the various application forms, and other matters relating to trade mark registration.

Specimen forms and certificates are included as part of the decree, and 34 classifications of goods are specified.

A copy of the supplement to the *Official Gazette* containing the new regulations is available for public inspection at the Chancery House Annexe of the Science Reference Library (Holborn Division), Chancery House, Lower Ground Floor, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1AY.

South Africa

Customs tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List, 1/78; published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 20 January 1978 contains applications to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

1 Gas mantles, classifiable under tariff subheading 59.14.20

2 Shackles wire-rope clamps and parts thereof, classifiable under tariff heading 73.40

3 The undermentioned equipment imported with or incorporating electric motors, single or three phase, of 0.03 kw to 260 kw, of voltages not exceeding 500v with not more than eight poles:

Tariff heading	Description
ex 84.10.40.90	Reciprocating pumps
ex 84.10.50.90	Centrifugal pumps (including turbo pumps)
ex 84.10.60.90	Rotary pumps
ex 84.10.80.90	Pumps for liquids
ex 84.11.10.90	Air compressors
ex 84.11.60.90	Ventilating fans
ex 84.11.70.40	Fans, blowers and the like (excluding ventilating fans)
ex 84.45.10.10	Automatic lathes
ex 84.45.10.20	Capstan (or turret) lathes
ex 84.45.12	Planing machines

Tariff heading	Description
ex 84.45.13	Shaping machines
ex 84.45.14	Slotting machines
ex 84.45.15	Broaching machines
ex 84.45.10.10	Jig boring machines
ex 84.45.27.90	Milling machines
ex 84.45.29.20	Single-spindle vertical drilling machines
ex 84.45.29.50	Multi-spindle vertical drilling machines
ex 84.45.30.10	Radial drilling machines
ex 84.45.31	Sawing machines (including friction or abrasive cutting off machines)
ex 84.46.10	Portable or mobile machine tools
ex 84.47.10	Fret saws
ex 84.47.80	Portable or mobile machine tools
ex 84.47.90	Other machine tools
ex 84.59.25	Vacuum cleaners, electrical, non-domestic

4 Decorative laminates, thermosetting of a fob price per m^2 not exceeding 270 c, classifiable under tariff sub heading 39.01.80.10

5(A) copperware classifiable under tariff subheadings 74.03.80 and 74.03.90

(B) Stranded or bunched wire, cables, cordage ropes, plaited bands, braided wires and the like of copper wire, (excluding insulated electric wires and cables), classifiable under tariff heading 74.10

(C) (i) cable and wire insulated with artificial plastic materials (excluding varnish, lacquer or enamel), classifiable under tariff subheading 85.23.20.90

(C) (ii) insulated with paper and sheathed in lead or armoured or sheathed in lead and armoured, classifiable under tariff subheading 85.23.30

(C) (iii) insulated with rubber and sheathed in lead or armoured or sheathed in lead and armoured, classifiable under tariff subheading 85.23.40

(C) (iv) rubber insulated, taped and braided, classifiable under tariff subheading 85.23.50

(C) (v) insulated with plastic materials (excluding varnish, lacquer or enamel), metal screened, with an insulation thickness between the conductor and the screen of 6 mm or more but not exceeding 12 mm, of which the diameter of the conductor exceeds 23 mm but not exceeding 30 mm, classifiable under tariff subheading 85.23.20.10

(C) (vi) other, classifiable under tariff subheading 85.23.90

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5274.

Sri Lanka

Budget 1978: further information. *Trade and Industry*, 2 December refers. Further announcements for which details are now available include **reduction in business turnover tax rates.** Three rates apply for manufacturing industry (1, 5, 10 per cent) and three other rates extending from 15, 20 and 25 per cent on liquor, ready made garments, cigarettes, local vehicle assembly, and manufacture of beedies.

Increases in export duty on tea, rubber and coconut.

Tea
RS15.50 per kilo on bulk
RS13.50 per kilo on packet
RS40.00 per kilo on instant
Rubber
New sliding scale of duties on various grades
Coconut
60 per cent fob on dessicated coconut
30 per cent *ad valorem* on coconut fibre

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5278.

Trinidad and Tobago

Prohibition of toy guns. By act 45 of 1977, the Trinidad and Tobago authorities have prohibited the importation of any toy gun which is capable of being mistaken for a real firearm. Inquiries from British exporters about this notice should be addressed to OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

United States

Import of speciality steels under quota. Import statistics in pounds weight for the following products with quotas still open as at 13 January 1978.

Sheets and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	26 740 652
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	3 958 513
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	4 607 741

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Noise meters. The *Federal Register* dated 30 December 1977, published a rule proposed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) whereby manufacturers could submit production models of personal noise meters to NIOSH for testing and certification. Written comments by 13 February 1978 to National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control, Room 8-11, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Sunlamps and ultraviolet lamps. The *Federal Register*, 30 December 1977, published a rule proposed by the Food and Drug Administration to formulate a performance standard which would reduce injury from overexposure and would provide more safety information on labels. Written comments (four copies) by 28 February 1978 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Cooking appliances. The *Federal Register* dated 30 December 1977 published a rule proposed by the Department of Energy prescribing test procedures for types of cooking appliances as part of the energy conservation programme. Written comments (15 copies) by 14 February 1978 to Executive Communications, Room 3317, Department of Energy, Box QK, Washington DC 20461. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Gases in motor vehicle cabs. The *Federal Register*, 3 January 1978, published a proposal by the Federal Highway Administration to invite comments on the presence of toxic gases in truck and lorry cabs. Written comments (three copies) by 2 February 1978 to Bureau of Motor Carrier Safety, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington DC 20590. A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Textile agreements. On 10 August 1977 the United States Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements announced a revised textile category system, introduced on 1 January 1978, for use in bilateral agreements negotiated by the United States under the Gatt multifibres arrangement. On 4 January 1978 the committee published correlation tables for the new categories with the tariff schedules of the United States annotated (TSUSA).

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5401.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million 18,041	10,528	1,830	1,929	£ million		
1970	100.0	31,696	9,453	2,130	1,799	444	325	68	−16	695	−25	720
1971	101.8	32,675	9,682	1,991	1,930	92	−148	52	18	1,058	280	778
1972	104.2	34,542	9,797	1,739	2,071	34	−145	48	15	106	−702	808
1973	110.4	36,062	10,253	1,753	2,414	1,321	597	102	379	−909	−2,353	1,444
1974	109.5	35,361	10,287	2,028	2,414	596	634	81	−109	−3,537	−5,194	1,657
1975	107.9	35,257	10,062	1,745	2,034	−743	−429	−111	−65	−1,647	−3,203	1,556
1976	110.1	35,405	9,724	1,659	1,974	66	5	23	9	−1,227	−3,571	2,344
1977		35,062 pe								59	−1,657	1,716
1976 1st qtr.	110.2	8,829	2,489	405	471	44	0	26	33	−65	−538	473
2nd qtr.	109.6	8,797	2,425	407	489	−57	−66	−20	−45	−350	−907	557
3rd qtr.	109.8	8,880	2,435	421	506	−1	−2	14	16	−446	−1,144	698
4th qtr.	110.8	8,899	2,375	426	508	80	73	3	5	−366	−982	616
1977 1st qtr.	109.8	8,761	2,248	419	507	155	125	51	102	−514	−928	414
2nd qtr.	110.0	8,665	2,231	432	509	235	164	39	−5	−305	−723	418
3rd qtr.	109.9	8,796	2,262	455	528	−81	−45	6	−44	405	−44	449
4th qtr.		8,840 pe								473	38	435 e
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−0.3	+1.2	−2.8	+5.0	+2.2							
on a year earlier	+0.2	−0.8	−7.6	+7.1	+4.2							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices		Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Export	Import
				monthly averages		% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used	manufactured products: home sales		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	On a balance of payments basis	
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices		(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)				at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.3	99.4	100.0	108.5	80.0	9.4	104.6	109.0	119.4	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.5	102.0	105.8	138.6	85.7	7.1	109.2	114.8	134.8	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.1	93.5	9.1	144.5	123.2	152.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	106.9	108.8	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	179.6	599.7¹	2.6¹	302.7¹	132.0	136.4
1975	101.5	102.2	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	227.6	929.0	3.9	150.0¹	126.1	126.5
1976	101.9	103.0	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	263.3	1,269.8¹	5.4¹	120.4¹	136.6	134.3
1977			105.7 p	107.1	182.0	15.8	340.2 p	261.7 p		1,378.2	5.8	155.3¹	148.4	142.3
1977 1st qtr.	103.3	105.3	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	280.2	1,330.2	5.6	..	141.9	142.4
2nd qtr.	101.9	103.2	103.9	102	181.9	17.4	347.7	259.2	285.2	1,330.4	5.6	159.2	149.9	144.8
3rd qtr.	102.6	103.5	106.8	112	184.7	16.5	340.5	267.7	288.4	1,420.8	6.0	150.5	153.7	142.0
4th qtr			107.2 p	110	187.4	13.1	331.0 p	272.0 p		1,431.5	6.1	157.2	148.0	139.9
1977 Feb.	103.2	105.3	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	278.7	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	139.5	133.9
Mar.	103.3	105.5	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2	250.8	283.8	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	144.1	139.5
Apr.	102.3	103.4	103.4	108	180.3	17.5	349.7	255.4	283.1	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	150.5	139.2
May	103.5	104.9	104.4	108	181.7	17.1	348.3	259.8	286.2	1,315.9	5.6	161.2	146.1	143.9
June	99.9	99.9	103.8	90	183.6	17.7	345.2	262.4	286.2	1,352.9	5.7	157.8	153.2	151.3
July	102.5	103.9	107.0	110	183.8	17.6	344.5	265.8	286.5	1,402.2	5.9	152.7	153.5	149.3
Aug.	102.6	103.2	107.2	124	184.7	16.5	338.8	268.1	288.7	1,413.8	6.0	154.1	152.0	131.9
Sept.	102.7	103.5	106.2	103	185.7	15.6	338.1	269.2	290.1	1,446.4	6.1	144.7	155.7	144.9
Oct.	101.5	102.5	105.4	118	186.5	14.1	333.8	271.0	294.6 p	1,433.4	6.1	153.4	150.0	140.4
Nov.	102.1 p	103.0 p	106.1	107	187.4	13.0	330.2 p	271.8 p	300.2 p	1,432.9	6.1	155.6	142.9	133.2
Dec.			109½p	104	188.4	12.1	328.9 p	273.3 p		1,428.1	6.0	162.7	151.2 p	146.2 p
1978 Jan.										1,428.4 p	6.0	182.8 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+0.4	+0.7	+0.4	−2.4	+1.5		−2.8	+1.6	+2.7	−0.1			−3½	−1½
on a year earlier	−0.4	−1.2	−1.2	−2.9	+13.1		+0.3	+16.3	+9.6	+7.8			+4½	+1

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate e Estimate .. Not available ¹ Average of available months

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Census of production 1976: provisional results for manufacturing and construction industries

Provisional estimates are given in the table of some of the principal results of the census of production 1976 – with comparable data where available for 1973-75 – for the manufacturing and construction industries (orders III-XX of the standard industrial classification (revised 1968)). A Business Monitor, PA 1000, will be available in March from Her Majesty's Stationery Office. This monitor will provide information for the same years but with more detailed headings for each of the industries in the manufacturing sector together with those in order II (mining and quarrying) and XXI (gas, electricity and water). From the census for 1974 the coverage has been extended to include order XX (construction).

The 1976 census of production, is the seventh in the annual series taken for Great Britain by the Department of Industry's Business Statistics Office under the Statistics of Trade Act 1947 and for Northern Ireland by the Department of Commerce, Belfast, under the Statistics of Trade (Northern Ireland) Act 1949. The information collected separately for Northern Ireland is included in the United Kingdom totals published in this table and in the Business Monitors. Censuses of production form part of a system of industrial statistics which was mainly brought into operation between 1970 and 1973. The rest of the system comprises selected monthly inquiries into manufacturers' sales, orders and production, quarterly inquiries into product sales of manufacturing industries and less frequent inquiries into additional subjects including details of purchases of goods and services by industry. The main objective of the series of annual censuses is to provide information about the structure of industry which will be useful to industry, economic analysts and government alike. The censuses make possible the comparison of the characteristics of an industry either between years or with other industries in the same year, and with industry in other member countries of the European Economic Community which are conducting similar inquiries. Estimates of gross value added are available from 1973 onwards.

Coverage

The censuses for 1973-76 covered establishments in Great Britain engaged in manufacturing, mining and quarrying, electricity, gas and water supply (orders II-XIX and XXI) of the standard industrial classification (revised 1968). From the census for 1974 the coverage has been extended to include construction (order XX). A return was required in the 1976 census from each establishment with 20 or more employees. In the construction industry, where firms employing less than 20 persons account for a relatively high proportion of total employment and output, a sample was taken of establishments with less than 20 employees.

Results

The figures in the table include estimates for

Output, employment and capital expenditure 1973-76

All United Kingdom establishments classified to manufacturing and construction

Standard industrial classification		Year	Total employment	Gross output	Net output	Gross value added		Net capital expenditure
						Total	Per head	
Order			Thous	£ million	£ million	£ million	£	£ million
III to XIX	All manufacturing industries	1973	7 615.7	63 340.0	26 600.0	23 730.6	3 116	2 282.3
		1974	7 696.1	83 463.8	32 331.3	28 402.9	3 691	3 178.0
		1975	7 508.8	95 670.5	36 796.5	31 851.0	4 242	3 695.4
		1976	7 370.8	116 816.3	44 871.6	38 795.4	5 263	4 044.7
III	Food, drink and tobacco	1973	797.4	11 805.9	3 431.2	2 995.3	3 756	358.2
		1974	793.6	14 566.5	4 003.6	3 340.3	4 209	471.0
		1975	770.5	17 757.1	4 691.9	3 718.1	4 826	472.5
		1976	787.3	21 626.5	5 899.8	5 049.7	6 414	530.1
IV	Coal and petroleum products	1973	37.2	2 294.3	430.0	391.2	10 516	49.5
		1974	37.2	5 152.2	736.4	663.8	17 844	67.3
		1975	37.1	5 968.4	833.3	774.2	20 868	90.1
		1976	35.2	7 165.8	854.3	786.0	22 330	92.3
V	Chemicals and allied industries	1973	389.1	5 388.2	2 377.3	2 026.1	5 207	234.3
		1974	406.8	8 176.1	3 225.5	2 756.1	6 775	350.3
		1975	408.4	8 851.2	3 491.6	2 885.7	7 066	591.7
		1976	405.3	11 533.5	4 593.5	3 849.5	9 498	715.7
VI	Metal manufacture	1973	497.8	5 270.2	1 887.3	1 686.7	3 388	259.4
		1974	495.7	7 209.6	2 564.8	2 302.3	4 644	399.8
		1975	494.5	7 474.2	2 489.2	2 203.4	4 456	630.8
		1976	476.6	9 427.5	3 021.4	2 646.8	5 554	616.9
VII	Mechanical engineering	1973	910.5	6 108.1	3 070.7	2 776.6	3 050	172.4
		1974	939.2	7 749.0	3 655.7	3 281.2	3 494	252.3
		1975	924.8	9 694.7	4 671.8	4 217.8	4 561	296.8
		1976	893.5	10 620.4	5 134.6	4 488.1	5 023	347.7
VIII	Instrument engineering	1973	149.4	751.6	413.8	371.5	2 487	30.2
		1974	171.6	1 099.8	574.9	508.7	2 964	44.3
		1975	166.8	1 254.6	667.3	585.6	3 511	47.6
		1976	160.5	1 412.5	795.0	696.3	4 338	52.9
IX	Electrical engineering	1973	773.6	4 997.9	2 332.2	2 146.4	2 775	159.0
		1974	790.1	6 281.3	2 956.0	2 680.2	3 392	249.0
		1975	766.5	7 366.3	3 498.3	3 212.6	4 191	249.0
		1976	750.8	9 471.7	4 283.6	3 731.8	4 970	273.5
X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering	1973	181.6	891.0	463.0	432.6	2 382	40.4
		1974	172.4	981.6	511.2	477.5	2 770	67.7
		1975	171.5	1 275.0	634.2	591.7	3 450	72.8
		1976	176.7	1 538.6	728.5	680.6	3 852	89.8
XI	Vehicles	1973	793.1	6 029.3	2 597.5	2 393.8	3 018	179.3
		1974	782.8	6 832.8	2 721.1	2 459.6	3 142	227.7
		1975	773.9	8 043.2	3 114.7	2 787.1	3 601	239.9
		1976	766.1	10 556.3	4 155.1	3 712.3	4 846	282.7
XII	Metal goods not elsewhere specified	1973	543.5	3 393.6	1 601.6	1 449.2	2 666	95.6
		1974	557.6	4 675.3	1 988.6	1 778.5	3 190	170.3
		1975	537.1	5 231.9	2 312.3	2 040.0	3 798	176.7
		1976	526.8	6 328.9	2 871.9	2 466.4	4 682	182.3
XIII	Textiles	1973	584.3	3 893.6	1 645.5	1 493.2	2 556	192.3
		1974	578.0	4 737.0	1 822.7	1 586.4	2 745	235.3
		1975	545.2	4 938.0	1 878.6	1 615.8	2 964	220.3
		1976	512.9	5 913.9	2 367.9	2 098.6	4 092	179.9
XIV	Leather, leather goods and fur	1973	43.2	336.4	108.0	96.7	2 238	7.2
		1974	42.5	372.6	131.1	116.4	2 739	10.2
		1975	42.2	412.7	147.5	127.3	3 017	9.7
		1976	41.3	539.9	194.0	167.9	4 065	10.7
XV	Clothing and footwear	1973	440.2	1 689.7	811.2	738.0	1 677	32.6
		1974	434.9	2 065.8	937.4	847.0	1 948	43.5
		1975	423.7	2 406.9	1 144.3	1 023.7	2 416	36.6
		1976	420.8	2 649.7	1 231.9	1 096.5	2 606	43.9
XVI	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc	1973	283.6	1 914.1	1 134.0	942.9	3 325	131.2
		1974	283.9	2 321.1	1 289.0	1 067.4	3 760	176.6
		1975	272.8	2 864.7	1 607.0	1 323.1	4 850	152.5
		1976	260 1	3 450.5	1 915.9	1 586.1	6 098	170.2
XVII	Timber, furniture, etc	1973	276.6	2 355.1	1 015.5	910.6	3 292	76.6
		1974	271.2	2 867.0	1 118.6	974.8	3 594	85.3
		1975	264.0	3 002.8	1 191.3	1 023.9	3 878	74.5
		1976	258.2	3 574.9	1 455.2	1 233.5	4 777	102.3
XVIII	Paper, printing and publishing	1973	576.0	4 061.2	2 176.6	1 904.6	3 307	146.8
		1974	591.2	5 503.8	2 743.7	2 376.1	4 019	190.9
		1975	576.8	6 060.7	2 911.7	2 424.4	4 203	216.6
		1976	555.5	7 160.6	3 534.6	2 968.0	5 343	214.3
XIX	Other manufacturing industries	1973	338.6	2 159.8	1 104.6	975.2	2 880	117.3
		1974	347.4	2 872.2	1 351.0	1 186.6	3 416	136.5
		1975	333.0	3 068.1	1 511.5	1 296.6	3 894	117.3
		1976	343.2	3 845.1	1 834.4	1 537.3	4 479	139.5
XX	Construction	1974	1 508.5	12 932.1	5 623.8	4 926.5	3 266	350.5
		1975	1 464.2	14 866.5	6 681.3	5 869.4	4 009	429.3
		1976	1 413.0	15 809.6	7 126.2	6 124.0	4 334	463.3

non-respondents, unsatisfactory returns and establishments with less than 20 employees which are not required to make returns. Although the 1974 and 1975 results shown in the table are mainly those given in the provisional results for those years some improved estimates have been included for both years. Final results of the 1976 census including analyses by size of establishment and by region will appear in 163 separate industry Business Monitors (PA series), the publication of which will begin in the first quarter of 1979. Publication of the final results for the 1973 census has been completed and it is now planned to publish 1974 and 1975 final results for each industry in a joint monitor in the second half of 1978. Summary tables of the 1973 final results are being prepared.

Explanation of terms

Employment relates to the average number of persons on the payroll during the year of return, whether full or part-time employees, including working proprietors. In the calculation of gross output the value of total sales and work done is increased by the rise (or reduced by the fall) during the year in the value of work in progress and goods on hand for sale. Net output, a customary census measure, is calculated by deducting from gross output the cost of purchases (reduced by the rise or increased by the fall during the year of stocks of materials, etc) and the cost of industrial services received, and where applicable, duties, etc. Gross value added at factor cost is calculated by deducting from net output the cost of non-industrial services (eg rent of buildings and capital equipment, commercial insurance premiums, bank charges and amounts paid for professional services, post office services, transport and advertising), rates (excluding water rates) and the cost of licensing motor vehicles. This estimate of gross value added approaches more closely than census net output to the definition of net output or value added in national accounts statistics. Net capital expenditure is the value of new building work and acquisitions less disposals of land, existing buildings, vehicles, plant and machinery. Capital expenditure in respect of establishments where production had not commenced before the end of the year, is included.

Figures in the table have, where necessary, been rounded to the nearest final digit.

Business Monitor PA 1001 – introductory notes to the final census report – sets out in greater detail the notes for guidance and explanations of how a census is conducted.

Inquiries: Information on the PA series of Business Monitors and on the censuses generally can be obtained from the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG, tel. Newport 56111 (STD code 0633) ext. 2455.

Guide to government statistics

see Trade and Industry 13 January 1978, centre pages

Index of industrial production for November

The provisional estimate for the total all-industries' index of industrial production in November 1977 is 102.1 and that for manufacturing alone is 103.0 (1970 = 100). The latest figures – up to November 1977 – continue to suggest that the underlying level of industrial output changed little in recent months.

Before any adjustment for series which measure deliveries rather than productions, the provisional estimates show that the average levels of the all-industries' index and the corresponding index for manufacturing industries in the period September to November 1977 were about ½ per cent above their levels in the preceding three months. The analysis by broad market sector shows that, over the same period, the output of the consumer goods industries and the investment goods industries rose by about 1½ per cent and the output of the intermediate goods industries fell by about 1½ per cent.

On a longer-term comparison, the all industries' index in the period September to November was ½ per cent below the level in the same period a year ago; the corresponding change for manufacturing industries was a fall of about 1 per cent.

As an aid to interpretation of movements in the economy, the quarterly figures shown below represent industrial production by all industries other than those engaged in exploration for, and extraction of, mineral oil, natural gas and natural gas condensates on land and offshore:

1976	1st qtr	100.9	1977	1st qtr	102.4
	2nd	101.8		2nd	100.9
	3rd	101.1		3rd	101.5
	4th	102.3			

The index numbers presented in the adjoining tables are all seasonally adjusted. The seasonal adjustment process is designed to remove annually recurring month to month variations due, for example, to the incidence of holidays and other regular seasonal patterns of behaviour. The adjustments, however, can in general only be derived from analysis of past experience and may not be completely appropriate when holiday patterns change sharply. Changes in recent years in the amount and incidence of industrial holi-

Index of industrial production: summary table

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Total all industries	All industries other than construction	Mining and quarrying	Total manufacturing industries	Food, drink and tobacco	Chemicals, coal and petroleum products	Metal manufacture	Engineering and allied industries	Textiles, leather and clothing	Other manufacturing	Construction	Gas, electricity and water
Weights	1 000	850	37	745	84	65	57	319	76	144	146	72
1971	100.3	99.8	100.0	99.4	100.7	102.3	91.3	98.7	102.2	100.8	103.1	104.0
1972	102.5	102.1	84.1	102.0	105.0	107.5	91.4	99.2	104.5	107.1	104.9	111.6
1973	109.9	110.5	92.6	110.5	109.3	119.5	100.0	107.2	110.1	118.9	107.0	118.3
1974	106.9	108.5	78.8	108.9	109.9	124.6	91.7	108.3	103.1	112.1	97.9	118.9
1975	101.5	103.1	86.0	102.2	108.7	113.3	78.6	103.1	99.5	102.2	92.6	120.8
1976	101.9	104.2	89.2	103.0	110.9	124.3	85.3	98.6	101.7	106.2	88.9	123.5
1976												
2nd qtr	102.2	104.3	89.1	103.1	112.5	123 4	87.8	98.8	99.7	105.5	90.0	124.3
3rd	101.5	104.1	87.2	103.3	112.5	125.3	86.4	98.3	101.7	106.7	86.4	119.8
4th	102.9	105.7	94.0	104.4	111.5	128.3	85.2	99.0	103.7	108.9	86.9	125.0
1977												
1st qtr	103.3	107.2	103.1	105.3	113.2	129.6	84.2	100.0	105.1	109.6	80.8	128.3
2nd	101.9	105.3	104.5	102.7	111.9	128.3	80.8	98.6	99.2	105.4	82.4	131.8
3rd	102.6	105.9	105.3	103.5	110.4	127.7	83.7	99.2	102.6	106.5	83.6	130.4
1976												
Oct	102.4	105.1	92	104.4	112	126	87	99	104	109		119
Nov	103.0	105.8	94	104.6	111	131	85	99	103	109		125
Dec	103.2	106.0	96	104.1	111	128	84	99	105	109		131
1977												
Jan	103.4	107.3	101	105.1	113	125	87	101	105	109		133
Feb	103.2	107.0	103	105.3	113	132	84	99	106	110		126
Mar	103.3	107.2	105	105.5	114	132	82	100	105	110		126
Apr	102.3	105.8	103	103.4	114	128	78	99	101	106		131
May	103.5	107.2	106	104.9	112	130	90	100	101	108		131
Jun	99.9	103.0	105	99.9	110	127	75	96	96	102		133
Jul	102.5	105.8	104	103.9	112	127	87	99	104	106		127
Aug	102.6	105.9	106	103.2	108	130	79	99	101	108		134
Sep	102.7	106.0	106	103.5	111	127	85	99	103	106		131
Oct	101.5	104.3	104	102.5	110	122	76	100	102	106		122
Nov p	102.1	105.1	104	103.0	113	124	74	100	100	106		127
Percentage change latest three months on:												
1. previous three months	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.7	1.3	−2.9	−2.2	1.7	1.3	0.7		−3.4
2. a year earlier	−0.4	−0.1	14.7	−1.2	−0.8	−3.4	−8.6	1.0	−1.6	−2.4		3.9

p = Provisional

Index of industrial production: detailed analysis

Seasonally adjusted — 1970 = 100

	Mining and quarrying		Food, drink and tobacco		Chemicals, coal and petroleum products		Metal manufacture		Engineering and allied industries				
	Coal mining	Other mining and quarrying	Food	Drink and tobacco	Coal and petroleum products	Chemicals and allied industries	Ferrous	Non-ferrous	Total engineering	Mechanical engineering	Instrument engineering	Electrical engineering	Shipbuilding and marine engineering
Weights	30	7	52	32	7	58	43	14	182	100	15	67	16
1971	98.4	106.5	99.9	101 9	103.3	102.1	89.8	95.8	99.4	97.4	103.3	101.6	98.7
1972	76.4	116.3	104.0	106.5	102.5	108.1	89.4	97.3	99.1	93.6	101.9	106.6	89.5
1973	84.2	127.1	106.3	114.2	110.0	120.7	97.3	108.5	109.7	101.8	110.1	121.3	90.6
1974	70.0	115.0	104.5	118.8	106.0	126.9	87.7	104.2	113.1	106.2	117.8	122.6	92.4
1975	81.1	106.1	101.1	121.1	92.0	116.0	74.2	92.3	108.7	104.2	118.5	113.4	97.7
1976	74.7	149.2	103.7	122.7	96.3	127.8	82.0	95.5	103.3	96.9	113.1	110.7	92.0
1976													
2nd qtr	75.5	145.0	104.9	124.9	96.9	126.8	85.2	95.9	103.8	98.0	114.4	110.1	92.8
3rd	73.0	145.7	104.7	125.4	96.5	129.0	83.4	95.9	102.9	95.6	110.9	112.1	90.1
4th	73.6	178.0	104.1	123.7	97.9	132.2	81.6	96.5	103.7	94.9	117.7	113.7	91.4
1977													
1st qtr	74.5	221.5	107.4	122.9	96.0	133.8	79.7	98.2	105.8	98.1	114.1	115.6	79.9
2nd	73.8	231.4	105.7	122.1	94.4	132.6	77.2	91.8	102.2	94.2	118.6	110.7	89.7
3rd	72.7	240.4	105.4	118.5	92.8	132.1	81.4	90.8	104.1	94.3	117.0	116.0	82.2
1976													
Oct	73	171	104	125	100	129	82	101	103	94	117	113	87
Nov	74	176	106	121	98	135	83	92	104	95	118	114	96
Dec	74	188	102	125	96	132	80	97	104	95	118	114	92
1977													
Jan	75	211	108	121	91	129	83	100	106	98	114	116	77
Feb	75	222	108	121	101	136	79	97	106	98	114	116	81
Mar	74	232	106	127	96	136	77	97	105	98	114	115	82
Apr	74	223	108	123	94	133	72	97	103	95	118	111	88
May	74	236	106	122	92	135	90	89	102	94	119	110	92
Jun	73	236	103	121	96	131	70	89	102	93	119	111	89
Jul	73	232	105	122	94	131	85	92	103	94	118	114	75
Aug	72	244	104	115	92	135	76	88	104	95	117	116	88
Sep	73	245	107	118	92	131	83	92	105	94	117	118	83
Oct	72	239	102	124	88	126	71	91	106	95	116	120	79
Nov p	71	240	106	123	93	128	70	88	106	95	115	122	88
Percentage change latest three months on:													
1. previous three months	−1.4	1.6	0.8	1.9	−3.0	−2.9	−3.4	0.7	2.4	0.9	−1.8	5.4	−0.9
2. a year earlier	−1.5	43.6	−0.3	−1.5	−8.5	−2.9	−9.6	−6.0	2.3	−0.1	0.4	5.7	−7.9

	Engineering and allied industries (cont)				Textiles, leather and clothing			Other manufacturing					
	Total vehicles	Motor vehicles	Other vehicles	Metal goods not elsewhere specified	Textiles	Leather, leather goods and fur	Clothing and footwear	Total bricks, pottery, glass, etc.	Bricks, cement, etc	Pottery and glass	Timber, furniture, etc	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries
Weights	73	45	28	48	49	3	24	27	17	10	22	64	31
1971	100.2	100.5	99.7	93.3	100.6	103.0	105.4	108.4	107.0	110.5	103.0	97.3	99.8
1972	104.0	102.2	106.8	95.4	102.9	104.5	107.8	115.9	115.1	117.2	113.5	102.7	104.3
1973	107.6	104.6	112.6	102.9	108.6	101.1	114.6	126.8	123.7	131.7	132.6	112.1	116.7
1974	103.0	95.5	115.2	103.6	99.2	94.9	112.2	117.1	108.3	130.9	112.1	108.9	114.5
1975	95.3	87.8	107.6	95.0	93.8	92.9	112.2	107.9	99.7	120.8	110.2	95.6	105.5
1976	91.9	89.4	96.0	93.0	97.4	95.6	111.3	111.1	101.9	125.6	112.4	97.9	114.7
1976													
2nd qtr	91.9	90.2	94.7	92.5	95.2	93.8	109.8	110.8	101.8	125.0	110.3	98.0	113.1
3rd	91.6	89.0	95.7	93.5	97.5	94.7	111.4	112.6	102.5	128.3	113.5	98.4	114.0
4th	91.8	90.8	93.4	95.0	99.5	95.9	113.4	110.6	99.2	128.4	114.8	100.1	121.3
1977													
1st qtr	91.6	94.2	87.3	97.5	99.3	97.2	118.2	109.2	96.9	128.5	110.7	102.7	123.3
2nd	93.6	96.5	89.1	95.2	91.7	87.4	116.1	106.8	93.8	127.1	99.6	101.0	117.3
3rd	92.5	94.3	89.6	96.0	93.7	89.0	122.7	108.4	94.4	130.4	103.1	101.4	117.7
1976													
Oct	94	93	95	96	100	96	113	109	99	124	119	101	120
Nov	92	91	94	93	99	96	111	112	100	131	113	99	124
Dec	89	88	91	95	100	96	116	111	99	130	112	100	120
1977													
Jan	94	99	86	97	100	97	115	109	95	130	111	102	122
Feb	87	88	87	98	100	97	121	108	97	124	112	103	125
Mar	93	96	89	97	98	97	119	111	98	132	109	103	123
Apr	96	100	90	96	93	87	117	106	93	126	103	101	118
May	98	102	92	99	93	87	117	110	96	133	103	102	122
Jun	87	88	86	91	88	87	114	104	92	122	93	100	112
Jul	95	98	91	98	96	89	123	107	92	130	103	101	118
Aug	91	92	89	96	92	89	121	108	95	129	105	103	120
Sep	91	93	89	95	94	89	124	110	96	132	101	101	116
Oct	92	91	93	96	92	87	125	107	93	129	106	101	116
Nov p	90	89	92	97	91	87	122	107	94	128	104	102	118
Percentage change latest three months on:													
1. previous three months	0.0	−1.9	3.2	1.5	0.1	−0.8	3.4	1.6	1.1	2.1	3.4	−0.2	0.0
2. a year earlier	−1.0	1.0	−4.0	1.8	−7.1	−8.1	9.3	−3.1	−6.6	1.2	−10.0	1.7	−3.7

p = Provisional

days taken between Christmas and new year's day and around the spring bank holiday may not be fully reflected in the seasonally adjusted estimates.

About two-thirds of the index of production is derived by the revaluation to the prices of 1970 of data expressed at current prices. When the rate of change of prices is relatively large, or itself changes rapidly, the problems associated with this revaluation become more acute. For this reason the estimates for periods shown in this article should be regarded as subject to wider margins of error than those for earlier years.

Inquiries: 01-233 7239.

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in February

Information in the table is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in February 1978. The dates are those which departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date and series	Method of release	Source
2 Thur		
UK official reserves (Jan)	PN	HM Treasury
Capital issues and redemptions (during the month of Jan)	PN	Bank of England
Building society house prices and mortgage advances (4th qtr)	PN	Department of the Environment
6 Mon		
Wholesale price index numbers (Jan – prov)	PN	Department of Industry
Retail sales (Dec – final)	PN	Department of Trade
Slum clearance (4th qtr)	PN	Department of the Environment
Housing starts and completions (Dec)	PN	Department of the Environment
House renovation grants approved (Dec)	PN	Department of the Environment
Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Dec)	PN	Department of Trade
7 Tues		
UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-Jan)	PN	Bank of England
London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Jan)	PN	CLCB
9 Thur		
Central Government financial transactions (including borrowing requirements) (Jan)	PN	HM Treasury
Finished steel consumption and stock changes (4th qtr – prov)	PN	Department Industry
Provisional figures of vehicle production (Jan)	PN	Department of Industry
10 Fri		
Usable steel production (Jan)	PN	BSC/BISPA
Building Societies' receipts and loans (Jan)	PN	BSA
13 Mon		
Retail sales (Jan – prov)	PN	Department of Trade
Turnover of the catering trades (4th qtr)	PN	Department of Trade
14 Tues		
Index of industrial production (Dec – prov)	PN	CSO
Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (Jan)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO

Publication date and series	Method of release	Source
15 Wed		
Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (Jan)	PN	Department of Employment
Monthly index of average earnings (Dec)	PN	Department of Employment
16 Thur		
UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Jan)	PN	Bank of England
London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (mid-Jan)	PN	Bank of England
Consumers' expenditure (4th qtr – 2nd preliminary estimate)	PN	CSO
Cyclical indicators for the UK economy (Jan)	PN	CSO
Building Societies' mortgage survey, 5 per cent sample survey results (4th qtr)	PN	Department of the Environment
17 Fri		
Retail prices index (Jan)	PN	Department of Employment
19 Sun		
National Savings monthly progress report (Jan)	PN	National Savings Committee
20 Mon		
CBI Monthly Trends Inquiry (Feb)	PN	CBI
Preliminary estimate of gross domestic product based on output data (4th qtr)	PN	CSO
Turnover of the motor trades (4th qtr)	PN	Department of Trade
21 Tues		
Unemployment (Feb – prov)	PN	Department of Employment
Unfilled vacancies (Feb – prov)	PN	Department of Employment
Construction – new orders (Dec)	PN	Department of the Environment
23 Thur		
Car and commercial vehicle production (Jan – final)	PN	Department of Industry
Capital expenditure by the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (4th qtr – prov)	PN	Department of Industry
Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (4th qtr – prov)	PN	Department of Industry
Energy Trends	PN	Department of Energy
New vehicle registrations (Jan)	PN	Department of Transport
24 Fri		
Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Nov)	*Trade and Industry*	Department of Industry
28 Tues		
Bricks and cement production (Jan)	PN	Department of the Environment

PN Press notice.

Index of retail prices for December

The index of retail prices for all items for 13 December 1977 was 188.4 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.5 per cent on November 1977 (187.4) and of 12.1 per cent on December 1976 (168.0).

The rise in the index in December was due to increases in the prices of cars and some foods, particularly bread and eggs; to small increases in prices over a wide range of household goods; and to an increase in average telephone charges, reflecting the phasing-out of the rebate scheme.

Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext. 630.

Table 1 Index of retail prices

	Indices (15 Jan 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	15 Nov 1977	13 Dec 1977	
All items	187.4	188.4	+0.5
All items excluding food	185.9	186.6	+0.4
Food	192.9	194.8	+1.0
Seasonal food	166.9	171.1	+2.5
Other food	197.5	198.9	+0.7
Alcoholic drink	188.3	188.3	+0.0
Tobacco	218.2	218.2	+0.0
Housing	163.3	163.8	+0.3
Fuel and light	220.3	220.0	−0.1
Durable household goods	173.8	174.7	+0.5
Clothing and footwear	164.4	164.7	+0.2
Transport and vehicles	195.6	196.4	+0.4
Miscellaneous goods	196.9	197.5	+0.3
Services	180.6	184.0	+1.9
Meals out	197.4	198.0	+0.3

Table 2 Index of retail prices

	All items				All items except seasonal foods		
	Index 15 Jan 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months	12 months	Index 15 Jan 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	6 months
1977							
July	183.8	+0.1	+6.6	+17.6	183.5	+0.6	+7.4
August	184.7	+0.5	+6.1	+16.5	184.9	+0.8	+7.2
September	185.7	+0.5	+5.6	+15.6	186.2	+0.7	+6.8
October	186.5	+0.4	+3.4	+14.1	187.3	+0.6	+4.8
November	187.4	+0.5	+3.1	+13.0	188.2	+0.5	+4.3
December	188.4	+0.5	+2.6	+12.1	189.0	+0.4	+3.6

Single-figure inflation 'certain in next few months' – Hattersley

Single-figure inflation was 'certain in the next few months', said Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 20 January.

'The retail price index for December shows that the improvement in our inflation rate continues,' he said. 'In December prices rose by only ½p in the pound – the sixth month in succession during which prices rose by 0.5 per cent or less. The annual inflation rate now stands at 12.1 per cent, an improvement of almost a full percentage point on the November figure.

'Single figure inflation will certainly be achieved within the next few months and if we remain resolute in our present policies, will continue through 1978 and into 1979.'

Engineering sales and orders up to October

SIC orders VII, VIII and IX

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume indices of engineering sales and orders up to October 1977 confirm that overall growth in new orders and sales is attributable to the home market showing some recovery from its very depressed level, whilst the previously buoyant export market has declined in recent months. Total new orders, net of cancellations, rose by 2½ per cent between July and October, and sales by 1½ per cent. The trend of total orders-on-hand continued unchanged, although the seasonally adjusted indices recorded a 1 per cent rise between the end of July and October.

The inflow of new domestic orders increased by 6 per cent during the three months to October, mainly due to contracts placed with electrical engineering industries. This recent improvement means that the trend has just exceeded the level reached at the beginning of 1977, after a setback in the intervening months. Home sales displayed a similar pattern of slight recovery interrupted by a downturn in the first half of 1977, and then increased by 3½ per cent between July and October. However, home order books remained virtually flat at about three-quarters of their average 1970 volume. The seasonally adjusted October figure was 2 per cent above the July level, but this occurred as a result of slight variations from month to month and is not sufficient to indicate a sustained improvement.

In contrast new orders from the export market, which had shown a strong increase during 1976, appear to have declined throughout most of 1977, with a fall of 4 per cent during the three months to October. The similar movements in export sales lagged by several months, but by October they had fallen 2½ per cent from their peak level in July. The inflow of orders from abroad in the middle months of last year was equal on average to the rate of export deliveries, and export orders-on-hand remained practically unchanged from the end of May to the end of October.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the monthly engineering inquiry relating to October 1977. The response rate of 80 per cent to the inquiry for October 1977 is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for July, August and September response rates for these months were 93, 90 and 91 per cent respectively.

An expanded commentary, together with

Notes to table

[1] This ratio shows the number of months work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales. [2] For orders-on-hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point. p Provisional.

Volume index numbers for the combined engineering industries up to October

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970 [1]	6.7			6.3			7.6		
Trend estimates									
1975									
July	109	91	109	102	88	105	125	99	119
August	106	90	108	99	87	105	122	96	118
September	104	89	108	96	87	104	120	96	118
October	101	90	107	94	86	103	117	98	118
November	99	90	106	91	86	101	115	102	119
December	96	91	105	89	86	99	113	105	121
1976 p									
January	95	92	104	88	87	98	111	106	122
February	93	93	104	86	88	97	108	105	122
March	91	93	104	85	89	97	106	105	122
April	90	94	104	83	89	98	104	108	122
May	89	96	105	82	89	99	103	112	121
June	88	98	105	81	91	100	103	119	120
July	87	102	105	80	93	100	104	125	118
August	87	105	105	79	95	101	106	131	118
September	87	107	106	78	97	101	108	136	119
October	88	109	106	77	98	101	111	139	121
November	88	110	107	77	99	101	113	140	123
December	89	110	107	77	100	100	115	138	124
1977 p									
January	89	110	106	77	101	100	116	134	124
February	90	109	106	77	100	99	117	131	125
March	90	107	106	77	99	98	117	129	126
April	90	105	105	77	97	97	118	129	127
May	90	105	105	77	95	97	118	130	128
June	89	104	106	77	95	97	118	131	129
July	89	106	107	76	96	98	119	130	129
August	89	107	107	76	99	100	119	128	128
September	89	108	108	76	101	101	119	126	127
October	89	108	108	76	102	102	119	125	126
Percentage change [2] Jul-Oct 1977	—	+2.5	+1.5	—	+6.0	+3.5	—	−4.0	−2.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1970	99	100	100	100	100	100	97	101	100
1971	90	94	100	94	96	99	82	90	100
1972	97	104	100	101	107	103	88	96	92
1973	127	128	111	127	129	114	127	128	103
1974	127	115	115	122	110	113	141	128	119
1975	96	93	110	89	89	106	112	103	121
1976 p	88	100	105	76	92	99	115	122	121
1976 p									
1st qtr	92	94	104	85	91	98	106	105	120
2nd	87	95	106	81	89	99	101	109	122
3rd	87	106	106	79	98	101	106	128	118
4th	88	107	105	76	92	98	115	146	124
1977 p									
1st qtr	90	111	107	78	105	101	117	128	122
2nd	89	104	106	76	93	97	119	134	130
3rd	90	108	107	77	101	99	118	125	128
1976 p									
January	95	101	108	87	92	103	113	125	120
February	93	93	104	87	96	99	109	86	118
March	92	89	99	85	84	91	106	103	120
April	90	97	108	84	95	102	104	102	124
May	88	92	109	82	83	102	102	115	129
June	87	95	100	81	89	95	101	111	114
July	87	104	105	78	85	99	107	157	119
August	87	110	106	79	108	103	107	116	114
September	87	104	106	79	101	101	106	112	120
October	88	112	109	78	97	106	111	155	118
November	88	109	104	77	91	97	115	157	122
December	88	99	102	76	89	92	115	127	131
1977 p									
January	89	121	112	77	111	107	117	149	126
February	90	112	108	78	111	104	116	113	121
March	90	100	100	78	91	93	117	124	120
April	90	109	108	78	102	100	117	128	129
May	90	103	102	77	87	93	119	144	127
June	89	101	107	76	90	98	119	131	133
July	88	102	109	75	91	100	119	131	133
August	90	116	105	77	114	99	119	122	121
September	90	105	107	77	99	98	118	123	129
October	89	108	110	76	99	105	119	130	124
May-Jul 1977 (av.)	88	102	106	75	89	97	119	135	131
Aug-Oct 1977 (av.)	89	110	107	76	104	101	119	125	125
Percentage change [2]	+1.0	+7.5	+1.0	+2.0	+16.5	+4.5	—	−8.0	−5.0

additional tables, is given in Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £3.06 per annum. Separate commentaries and volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and new orders for total, home and export markets, for mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX respectively).

Inquiries: 01-212 5770.

Manufacturers' stocks in November

It is estimated that manufacturers' stocks fell by about £70 million at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted, in November 1977. A large fall is thought to have taken place in stocks of finished goods, with little change in stocks of materials and fuel and work in progress.

Monthly figures from January 1977 are as follows:

		Stock change £ million, 1970 prices seasonally adjusted
1977	January	−10
	February	60
	March	70
	April	20
	May	80
	June	70
	July	−10
	August	−40
	September	—
	October	10
	November	−70

Inquiries: 01-215 5215/3176.

New companies registered in Northern Ireland in November

The number of new companies registered in Northern Ireland in November and the total nominal capital are as follows:

	November 1977	January to November 1977	November 1976
Public companies limited by shares	1	1	—
Private companies limited by shares	68	668	55
Private unlimited companies	—	—	—
Public companies limited by guarantee not having a share capital	1	8	1
Private companies limited by guarantee having a share capital	—	2	—
Private companies limited by guarantee having a share capital	—	—	—
Total nominal capital of companies incorporated	£3 272 600	£28 323 504	£1 379 400

Inquiries: Belfast 34121.

Foreign arrivals in the UK: record figures in September and October

Foreign visitors arriving in the UK in September and October numbered 869 000 and 782 000 respectively, according to figures released by the Department of Trade and the British Tourist Authority on 25 January. These figures, which are records for these months of the year, represent an increase of 11 per cent for September and 12 per cent for October over the same months of 1976.

Arrivals for the first 10 months of 1977 increased by 21 per cent, from 7 267 000 in 1976 to 8 800 000 in 1977. Thus the latest months show some reduction in the pace of the tourist boom. The figures include all travellers from the EEC countries except those for the Irish Republic. Commonwealth citizens are excluded.

Arrivals from the EEC countries in September were 410 000, 13 per cent above the figure for September 1976, with the largest increases being in arrivals from Belgium/Luxembourg (28 per cent) and Denmark (23 per cent). In addition arrivals from Germany and the Netherlands increased by 16 per cent and 11 per cent respectively.

In October arrivals from the EEC countries were 395 000, 8 per cent more than in October of the previous year, with the largest increases continuing to be in arrivals from Belgium/Luxembourg (13 per cent), Denmark (14 per cent), Germany (14 per cent) and the Netherlands (7 per cent). However Italy showed a decline in the number of arrivals of 1 per cent; it has shown an increase of only 9 per cent for the year so far. During the first 10 months of the year arrivals from the EEC countries were 4 714 000, 20 per cent above the same period in 1976.

The number of visitors from the rest of western Europe increased by 12 per cent during September, to 128 000, and by 2 per cent during October, to 131 000, compared with 1976. Arrivals for the first 10 months of the year increased by 26 per cent to 1 401 000. There were further large increases from Turkey, up by 47 per cent in September and 29 per cent in October. Yugoslavia showed substantial increases of 40 per cent in September and 66 per cent in October, and also Austria, of 39 per cent in September and 29 per cent in October. However, visitors from Norway and Spain decreased in September by 7 per cent and 4 per cent respectively, and also in October by 7 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. September was the first month for about 1½ years in which arrivals from Spain have shown a year-on-year percentage decrease. The number of visitors from Portugal also showed a decline in September, of 2 per cent, but recovered in October with an increase of 6 per cent.

The number of visitors from the rest of the world increased by 9 per cent to 331 000 in September, and by 25 per cent to 257 000 in October, compared with the equivalent months of 1976. The increase for the first 10 months of the year was 21 per cent.

The number of visitors from the United States increased by 2 per cent in September to 196 000, but improved in October with a rise of 27 per cent, and was 20 per cent higher over the first 10 months of the year compared with 1976.

The increase in the number of visitors from Japan continued steadily, with rises of 23 per cent in September and 20 per cent in October compared with last year, and an overall increase during the first 10 months of the year of 13 per cent.

Notes

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

For non-EEC countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown while, for EEC countries, total arrivals are shown irrespective of their purpose of visit or length of stay. This follows the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC, since when citizens of community countries are generally admitted to the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit or expected length of stay.

Seasonally adjusted figures: Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months, can be misleading. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of the varying date of Easter on numbers of western European visitors.

The seasonally adjusted series are liable to revision when subsequent figures become available and should therefore, for the most recent months, be viewed with caution.

Inquiries: 01-212 5555.

Foreign arrivals

Thousands per month

	Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic)		Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries: Rest of western Europe (non-EEC)		United States		Other foreign countries		Total non-EEC countries	
1968	144		34		73		29		136	
1969	174		40		95		35		170	
1970	199		47		117		41		205	
1971	214		53		129		46		228	
1972	232		59		134		51		244	
1973	265		70		131		62		263	
1974	280		75		107		68		250	
1975	314		87		99		80		267	
1976	379		113		121		89		322	
1976	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA
January	176	324	54	98	53	113	55	83	163	294
February	172	343	56	99	46	121	56	107	158	327
March	293	358	73	104	70	108	66	80	209	292
April	387	353	112	100	99	115	66	83	276	298
May	402	374	90	98	141	121	78	82	308	301
June	426	380	132	102	174	117	101	87	406	306
July	749	375	217	105	204	114	166	94	587	313
August	592	368	141	108	187	124	151	92	479	326
September	364	360	114	108	191	132	112	82	417	322
October	367	417	128	130	124	128	81	83	334	341
November	315	450	127	154	85	128	68	100	280	382
December	304	444	107	145	75	127	71	98	244	363
1977										
January	224	435	84	151	68	144	66	100	217	395
February	260	495	89	156	56	147	61	116	206	419
March	355	412	113	154	85	131	85	103	283	388
April	495	456	149	160	123	143	79	99	352	402
May	490	456	125	140	181	154	94	99	400	393
June	489	438	157	120	231	156	128	110	516	386
July	927	465	270	129	245	137	202	114	717	380
August	669	416	155	120	212	145	181	111	548	376
September	410	405	128	120	196	134	135	99	459	353
October	395	449	131	131	158	162	99	101	387	394
Jan-Oct 1976	3 928		1 117		1 289		932		3 338	
Jan-Oct 1977	4 714		1 401		1 555		1 129		4 086	

Total arrivals All persons admitted, including long-stay and short-stay visitors from EEC countries.
Foreign visitors All persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries excluding Commonwealth countries.
UA Unadjusted. **SA** Seasonally adjusted. **Source:** Home Office.

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Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 20 January 1978.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Movietone News 2537	BR/E 39385/22/1/83	8	20 January	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
COMMUNITY					
Young Bedmates	EC 39446/22/1/83	80	16 January	Eagle Films Ltd	Rapid Film GmbH, Munich
French Nympho	EC 39449/22/1/83	80	18 January	Butcher's Film Distributors Ltd	Audiovi International and Unia Film, Paris
FOREIGN					
The Apple Game (Hra O Jablko)	F 39447	101	17 January	Curzon Film Distributors Ltd	Kratky Film, Prague
Love Child	F 39448	87	17 January	Ember Film Distributors Ltd	Ethos Productions and Potterton Productions, Montreal
Blackboard Massacre	F 39450	82	19 January	Tigon Film Distributors Ltd	Evans Production Co Inc, New York

AMENDMENT TO THE REGISTER

The registration number of the film 'Sicilian Cross', registered on 15 February 1977, has been amended to EC 38974/20/2/82 and the maker to Aetos Produzione Cinematografiche SrL, Italy.

Cinema admissions and takings in October

During October 1977, counted as a four-week period, the weekly average of admissions to cinemas in Great Britain was 2.19 million and the weekly average of gross box office takings was £1.90 million. The comparable figures for October 1976 were 2.05 million and £1.56 million.

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